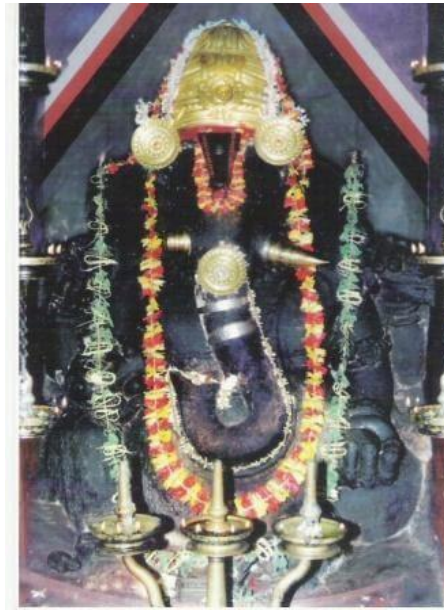




Ashtavinayak Temples of Maharashtra Parts - V to VIII

Compiled by
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Ashtavinayak Temples of Maharashtra Parts - V to VIII

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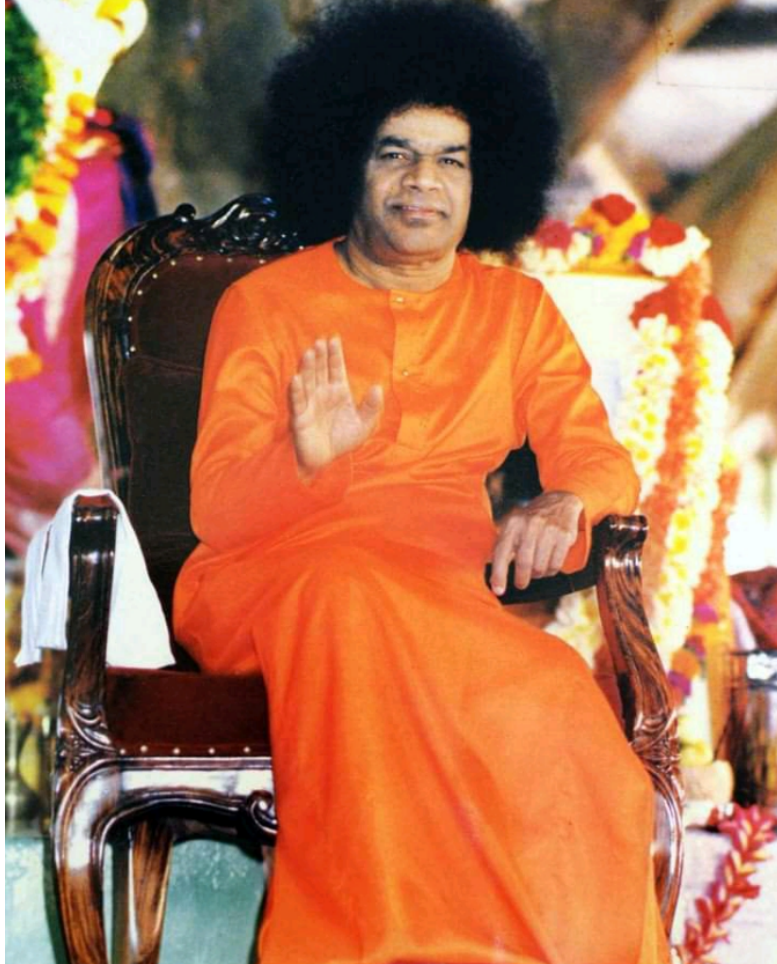
and

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Dedication

This work is lovingly dedicated at the lotus feet of:

Bhagavan Sri Sathya Sai Baba



There is only ONE caste -The Caste of Humanity

There is only ONE religion –The Religion of Love

There is only ONE language –The Language of the Heart

There is only ONE God –He is Omnipresent

.....Bhagavan Sri Sathya Sai Baba

CONTENTS

Following are the 4 temples for which information is given in this ebook:

- 5 Chintamani Temple Theur, Pune district
- 6 Girijatmaj Temple Lenyadri, Pune district
- 7 Vighneshwar Temple Ozar, Pune district
- 8 Mahaganapati Temple Ranjangaon, Pune district

APPENDIX

Above entries for temples and Appendix are hyperlinks. Click on the item which you wish to see, and you will be taken to the respective page in this document.

For each temple, the second page is CONTENTS page. Entries on that page are also hyperlinks. Using these hyperlinks, one can navigate to the desired place within the document of that temple.



PREFACE

The Ashtavinayak yatra or pilgrimage covers the eight ancient holy temples of Ganesh which are situated around Pune. Each of these temples has its own individual legend and history, as distinct from each other as the murtis in each temple.

It is believed that to complete the Ashtavinayak Yatra, one must revisit the first Ganpati after visiting all the eight Ganpatis.[1]

Ashtavinayak Temples

#	Temple	Location
1	Mayureshwar Temple	Morgaon, Pune district
2	Siddhivinayak Temple	Siddhatek, Ahmednagar district
3	Ballaleshwar Temple	Pali, Raigad district
4	Varadavinayak Temple ^[2]	Mahad, Raigad district
5	Chintamani Temple	Theur, Pune district
6	Girijatmaj Temple	Lenyadri, Pune district
7	Vighneshwar Temple	Ozar, Pune district
8	Mahaganapati Temple	Ranjangaon, Pune district

Route map:



Information on all the 8 temples were published serially recently.

For each temple, information in respect of its history, legends, architecture, spiritual importance, poojas, festivals, how to reach there, important sights nearby etc are given. Also, very good photos, links to videos about the temple, its history, poojas, important stotras etc are given.

A free ebook containing a combined version of the information on the first 4 temples was uploaded recently.

It may be downloaded with the following link:

<https://app.box.com/s/m29fahtk8yq391ij07teku45f5lg7wir>

This ebook is a combined version of information on temples V to VIII.

Acknowledgements:

Many of my friends and relatives have actively encouraged me in my attempt to compile this free ebook. I sincerely thank them for their support.

My wife Kala has always encouraged and supported me in all my literary works, sacrificing much of her time. I express my deep appreciation to her.

I have drawn heavily from many references, viz. Wikipedia, Official website of the temple, and associated YouTube videos etc.

Finally, I express my immense gratitude to Sri Sathya Sai Baba for His Grace and blessings, prompting me to initiate, continue and complete this work.

M. Thirumaleshwar,

November 29, 2021

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16. Panniyur Sri Varahamurthy Temple, Kerala (1 temple)

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17. Sri Viswanatha Swamy Temple, Palakkad, Kerala (1 temple)

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18. Ashtavinayak Temples- Parts - I to IV (4 temples)

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Link to free ebook: "Guidelines to Teachers ... from Sri SathyaSai Baba's Teachings":http://issuu.com/m.thirumaleshwar/docs/guidelines_to_teachers...from_sri_/1

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Bhagavan Buddha (Kannada) from teachings of Sri SathyaSai Baba:

<http://free.yudu.com/item/details/3900025/Bhagavan-Budha--Kannada---from-teachings-of-Sri-Sathya-Sai-Baba>

Link to Youtube video: Human Values and Educare ... from teachings of Sri SathyaSai Baba:

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<https://youtu.be/xJFU9eqVMa8>

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Link to download the ebook: ‘Man, Universe and The Supreme’:

<https://app.box.com/s/4otzw4ecmt29ludydgttcsgwvpym3ak0>

Also, see:

Prashanthi Bhajans: <http://prasanthi-mandir-bhajan.net/24kbhajan/>

Shlokas, Rudram etc by Pandits on Shivarathri day in Puttaparthi:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/13zrylzXUWIXWIII3eTQBAeIYZvX8xrZB/view?usp=sharing>

Links to original PDF files: Glory of Holy Feet of Guru (Kannada):

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Ashtavinayak Temples of Maharashtra - Part - V

Shri Chintamani Ganapati temple Theur

Compiled by
Dr. M. Thirumaleshwar
Email: tmuliya@rediffmail.com



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Introduction

"Brahma Srushtyadisakta Sthirahittam Pidito Vighnasande
Aakranto Bhutirakya Krutiganrajasa Jeevita Tyaktu Mischina
Swatmanan Sarvayakta Ganapatimamal Satyachintamaniyam
Mukta stapayant sthirmatisukhadam stavare dhudhi Midhe"

Meaning : The one who is in search of happiness, who is in the midst of all calamities should go to Sthavar means Theur & worship Shree Chintamani & get rid of all (worries) & calamities.

Ashtavinayaka or eight Ganeshas is located in Maharashtra state of India, The Ashtavinayak yatra or pilgrimage covers the eight holy temples of Ganesha which are situated around Pune.

Location of Chintamani Temple

In Haveli Taluka of District Pune, Theur is at the distance of 25 km from Pune. Theur is situated on the confluence of the Mula, Mutha & Bhima rivers
On ones way to Khandala from Mumbai one passes the Bor- Ghat. Theyoor lies just after the Bor Ghat.

Theyoor is 25km from Pune.

On Pune Solapur highway, after Hadapsar and Loni, at a distance of 3kms. From Loni a small road to the left leads to Theur.

One can get buses for Theyoor from the Sarasbaug and Poolgate bus depots in Pune.

Legend of Chintamani Temple

Abhijeet was a great and powerful king who had everything in life except a son who would be the heir to his throne. The king and his wife at the suggestion of Rishi Vaishyampayane carried great penance and were finally rewarded with son who they named Gana. He later came to be known as Ganaraja.

The son was bright brave and gifted except he was also very aggressive. Ganaraja was once invited to visit the ashram of Sage Kapil. The sage was a good host and with the help of the Chintamani Ratna [a precious stone] he was able to serve the best of food to Ganaraj. Impressed by the ratna, Ganaraj wanted it for himself, but when Kapilmuni refused to part with the ratna, he forcibly took it away from him.

Goddess Durga who was Kapilmuni's mentor advised him to seek the help of Lord Ganesh.

Lord Ganesh responded to his call and battled with Ganaraj under a Kadamba tree and managed to get the ratna back for Kapilmuni. But by then Kapilmuni had lost all desire to possess the Chintamani ratna and he offered it Lord Ganesh. He tied the Chintamani Ratna around Lord Ganesh's neck and so he came to be known as the Chintamani Vinayak.

Since all of this occurred under a Kadamba tree, Theyoor was also known as Kadambanagar.

Chintamani Ashtavinayak Ganpati Temple, Theur

The Chintamani Ashtavinayak Ganpati Temple Theur is one of the eight major temples of Lord Ganesha which constitutes the divine Ashtavinayak temples in Maharashtra. Chintamani Ganpati Temple in Theur is located 22 km from Pune, off the Pune-Solapur highway, and is hence the nearest from Pune. The village of Theur sits at the confluence of three major regional rivers-Mula, Mutha & Bhima. the temple is "one of the larger and more famous" of the Ashtavinayaka .Ganesha is believed to have got back the precious Chinatamani jewel from the greedy Guna for sage Kapila at this spot. However, after bringing back the jewel, sage Kapila put it in Vinayaka's (Ganesha's) neck. Thus the name Chintamani Vinayak. This happened under the Kadamb tree, therefore Theur is known as Kadambanagar in old times.

The lake behind the temple is called Kadambteertha. The temple entrance is North facing. The outer wooden hall is built by Peshwas. The main temple is supposed to have been built by Dharanidhar Maharaj Dev from the family-lineage of Shri Moraya Gosavi. He must have built this around 100 years before Senior Shrimant Madhavrao Peshwa built the outer wooden hall. This idol also has a left trunk, with carbuncle and diamonds as its eyes. The idol faces the East side.

Theur's Chintamani was the main worshipped god of Senior Shrimant Madhavrao Peshwa. He suffered from tuberculosis and died at a very young age (~27years). He is supposed to have died in this temple. His wife, Ramabai went as Sati with him on 18 November 1772.

Festivals Celebrated

In the month of Bhadrapad Shuddh[the waxing period] from Pratipada to Saptami [from the first to the sixth] and in the month of Magh Shuddh till the ashtami [eighth day] there are major celebrations in the temple. This festival is called the Dwaryatra .

On giving, appropriate donations Abhishek, Ekadashi, Sahastravartana, etc. are done by Poojari. Prasad and Angara (wholy ashes) are sent by post.

GREAT ASCETICS OF THEUR

Morya Gosavi of Chinchwad performed penances in the forest of Theur. As a result Shree Ganesh emerged in the guise of two Tigers.

HISTORICAL IMPORTANCE OF THEUR

Shri Chintamani is a family of God of Shreemant Madhavrao Peshwa. His palace was near the temple and now it is converted into garden. Madhavrao Peshwe had stayed in this palace in his last sickness. He renovated the temple and performed various religious programmes in the temple. By chanting Gajanan, Gajanan he bestowed his life on the foot of the Chintamani. Ramabai, wife of Madhavrao Peshwe became Sati (she burnt herself with the corpse of her husband). On that place, that is, on the bank of Mula-Mutha river Sati's Vrindavan is built. That day was 18-11-1772, Kartik Vadya Ashtami. On this day Rama-Madhav death anniversary is celebrated every year.

Ref: myoksha.com

Chintamani Ganpati Temple is dedicated to Lord Ganesha and is one of the eight Ashtavinayak Temples in Maharashtra. The temple is in Theur in Haveli Taluka. Chintamani Ganpati temple has specially designated sections for meditation. The main mandap consists of wood with a stone fountain at its centre.



Temple Timings

The timings of Chintamani Ganapati Temple are:

TIMINGS	FROM	TO
Morning Darshan	6 AM	1 PM
Evening Darshan	2 PM	10 PM
Darshan Timing on Angarkhi Chaturthi	4 AM	11 PM
Maha Aarti Timing	7:30 AM	
Maha Prasad Timing	10 AM	1 PM
Madhyan Aarti Timing	12 PM	
Shejaarti Timing	10 PM	

Notes/Tips: Plan to spend 1-2 hours for darshan. On weekends, the rush will be more. During the festivals of Ganesh Chaturthi and few other Ganesh festivals, devotees have to wait for 3 – 4 hours for darshan.

Poojas and Sevas



Here are the poojas and rituals that take place at Chintamani Ganapati Temple:

POOJAS AND RITUALS

Sahastravartan

Abhishek

Ekadashi

Devotees may make the appropriate payments at the temple and receive the Holy Prasad and ashes of Yagna.

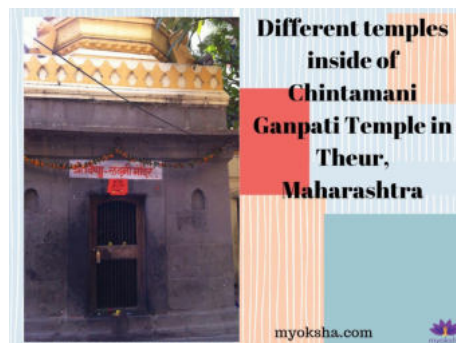
The famous Chintamani Ganpati temple has a separate section known as Overry where devotees can meditate peacefully.

What is the significance of Chintamani Ganpati Temple?

The significance of Chintamani Ganapati Temple is that Lord Chintamani is the God who brings peace mind. The idol of Lord Chintamani faces east. The Lord's eyes are precious gems. The Mahadwar or the main gate of the temple is north-facing, and a road connects it to river Mula Muth.

There are numerous little temples inside the temple complex like Mahadeva temple. Also, there is additionally a Vishnu-Lakshmi temple and a Hanuman temple. So while doing the temple Parikrama, those temples can be equally viewed. Since the legend of Chintamani occurred under a Kadamba tree, therefore, the village of Theur has another name- Kadambapur.

Lord Chintamani is the family deity of Shree Madhwarao Peshwa. Shree Madhwarao spent his last days at the temple and breathed his last while chanting the Lord's name. Saint Morya Gosavi did severe penance at Theur. Pleased with his penance, Lord Ganesh emerged from the nearby river Mula Muth as two tigers and granted the saint with Siddhi.



One of the many different temples that can be found inside the temple premises while doing the parikrama.

What is the architecture of Chintamani Ganpati Temple?



The temple was built in around 18th Century CE during the Peshwa rule and has a vivid architectural style.

It is portrayed as one of the largest and increasingly acclaimed of the Ashtavinayak temples. The temple's entryway situated toward the North is moderately smaller. The central icon of Chintamani Ganapati faces East. The temple has a wooden Sabha-mandapa which was built by Madhavrao. The lobby of the temple additionally has a black stone drinking fountain in it.

There are a number of smaller hallowed shrines in the temple complex. Behind the temple is the Peshwa Wada also known as the Peshwa Palace. Once it was the living arrangement of Madhavrao. Today the everyday activities of the temple are conveyed from this spot.



The valiant and devoted ruler of the Peshwas Shri Madhwarao Peshwa who constructed the present structure of the temple Chintamani Ganpati.

What is the history of Chintamani Ganpati Temple?

History of the Chintamani Ganapati is that there is no record of the person who built it. However, devotees believe that it exists since ancient times. Also, Chintamani Ganpati is related to the Saint Morya Gosavi, a staunch devotee of Lord Ganesh. Moreover, his descendants constructed the main temple structure.

Following a hundred years, Madhavrao Peshwa raised the Sabhamandap of the temple. A couple of years prior to the Shikhar (peak), of the temple was blessed in gold. As Peshwas visited these spot frequently, the two 5 metal bell purchased from Europe was one kept in Mahad and another one was kept here.

After the passing of Madhav Rao Peshwa, his wife performed Sati, the beautiful garden in the temple was made in her memory.



The divine idol of Lord Ganpati at the shrine of Chintamani Temple in Theur.

What are the legends of Chintamani Ganpati Temple?

Legend of Theur: Lord Brahma was once feeling very restless and plagued by an unwavering mind. He then meditated to Lord Ganesh in this village to help him to pacify his restless mind. The name Theur is a derivative of the Sanskrit word – Sthavar, which means stable. Since Lord Ganesh helped clear Lord Brahma's worries, the Lord became popular as Chintamani Vinayak.

Legend of Chintamani: King Abhijeet and his wife did severe penance and gave birth to Ganaraja, also known as Guna. When Ganaraja visited Sage Kapila's ashram, the sage took the help of the precious jewel – Chintamani to serve food to the prince. However, the greedy Ganaraja wanted the jewel for himself and forcibly took it from the Sage.

Goddess Durga advised Sage Kapila to seek Lord Ganesh's help. Then, Lord Ganesh defeated Ganaraja under a Kadamba tree, retrieved the precious jewel and took it back to sage Kapila. So, the sage rewarded Lord Ganesh by putting the jewel around his neck. Henceforth the Lord became famous as Chintamani Vinayak

What are the festivals celebrated at Chintamani Ganpati Temple?

Some festivals celebrated at Chintamani Ganapati Temple are:

Bhadrapad: Lord Ganesh's birth celebrations known as Ganesh Chaturthi or Vinayak Chaturthi is a key festival in the state of Maharashtra. In Theur, Lord Chintamani's birthday is a big event during Bhadrapat Shudh (August / September)

Magh: The Dwar Yatra festival held during Magh Shudh, the Chintamani Ganpati Temple is bustling with arrangements. Devotees celebrate the celebrations in Magh Shudh until Ashtami, or the eighth day (January – February)

Rama-Madhav Punyotsav: A fair is organized in the month of Karthik by the temple as part of the Rama-Madhav Punnyotsav. This commemorates the death anniversary of the temple patrons Madhavrao and his wife Ramabai.



How to reach Chintamani Ganpati Temple?

By road: Theur is nearly 25 km from Pune. Several state-run buses operate from Pune and Mumbai to Theur. In the event you are self-driving you can take Mumbai to Khandala road course. After crossing the Bhore Ghat, the town of Theur can be seen which is situated in Haveli Taluka, Pune District.

By rail: The nearest railway station to Theur is in Pune. The Pune station connects to major Indian cities. Pune Junction railroad station associates the city with all the prime Maharashtra cities. There are a few mail/express trains and superfast trains connecting the city from south, north, and west.

By air: The nearest airport is at Pune, which connects to all major Indian cities. Lohegaon Airport or Pune Airport is a universal air terminal, found 15 km far from Pune downtown area. Regular flights from Bangalore, Jaipur, Delhi, Goa, Mumbai, Hyderabad, Chennai, and Nagpur lands in the airport. Theur is 22 km from Pune Airport.

What are some temples near Chintamani Ganpati Temple?

Bhima Gada: Adjacent to the Girijatmaj Temple, cave no. 6 houses a Buddhist stupa. This is popular as Bhima's Gada. This stupa has good acoustics that allows sounds to echo.

Ref: artofliving.org



Chintamani Temple, Theur, Pune

This temple is at a distance of 22 km from Pune on Pune-Solapur highway. Theur is situated at the confluence of three rivers, Mula-Mutha-Bhima. Theur is close to Pune. This temple is just before Khandala on the Khopoli-Old Mumbai-Pune highway. Theur is an hour's drive on the Pune-Solapur highway.

The story of Shri Kshetra Chintamani

According to legend, King Abhijit and his wife performed great penance and gave birth to Ganasur. When Ganasura visited the sage Kapila's ashram, the sages used the Chintamani Ratna near him to feed Ganasura the best panchapakvanna. Ganasura lost his lust for the Chintamani gem and forcibly snatched it from Kapila sage. Goddess Durga advised Kapila sages to seek the help of Ganapati.

Ganapati defeated Ganaraja under the Kadamba tree, took the precious gem from him and gave it back to Kapila sage. As a reward for this, the sage Kapila placed the gem around Ganapati's neck and from then on, the Ganapati wearing Chintamani Ratna around his neck became known as Chintamani Vinayak. Theur is also known as 'Kadambapur' as the story takes place under the Kadamba tree.

Shri Chintamani Temple and Premises

The idol of Chintamani is facing east. There are precious gems in the eyes of Lord Ganesha. The main entrance of the temple is on the north side and connects the Mula-Mutha to the river. Inside the temple complex is a small Shiva temple.

Chintamani is the deity of the family of Shri Madhavrao Peshwa. Shri Madhavrao spent his last days in this temple and took his last breath in the name of Ganapati. Saint Morya Gosavi performed great penance at Theur. Pleased with their warmth, Ganapati incarnated in the form of two tigers from the nearby Mula-Mutha river and gave them success.

Worship and celebration

Darshan time 6 am to 1 pm and 2 pm to 10 pm

Ganesh Chaturthi is celebrated here and Ganesh Jayanti is also celebrated on a large scale. At this time Dwarayatra is organized and devotees flock here in large numbers to celebrate the birth of Lord Ganesha.

Madhavrao Peshwa spent his last days here. They had helped the temple in every way. Therefore, on the occasion of the death anniversary of Madhavrao and his wife Ramabai, Rama-Madhav Punyotsav is organized in the temple in the month of Kartik.

Other sights nearby:

- There is an ancient and scenic Shiva temple of Bhuleshwar in the hills to the south of Theur. Approximate distance 40 km.
- Shri Narayan Maharaj's Ashram and Datta Mandir is at Kedgaon on Pune-Daund road. Approximate distance 43 km.
- Ramdara is about 4 to 5 km from Loni near Theur. There is a Shiva temple surrounded by water. Approximate distance 4 to 5 km.
- There is a Naturopathy Ashram established by Mahatma Gandhi at Urlikanchan on the Pune-Solapur Highway near Theur Fatao. Approximate distance 13 km.
- There is a Wadebolhai temple on the Wagholi-Kesanand road. Approximate distance 13 km.
- There is a Sangameshwar temple and a memorial of Chhatrapati Sambhaji Maharaj at Bhimanadi near Tulapur on Pune-Nagar road. Approximate distance 21 km

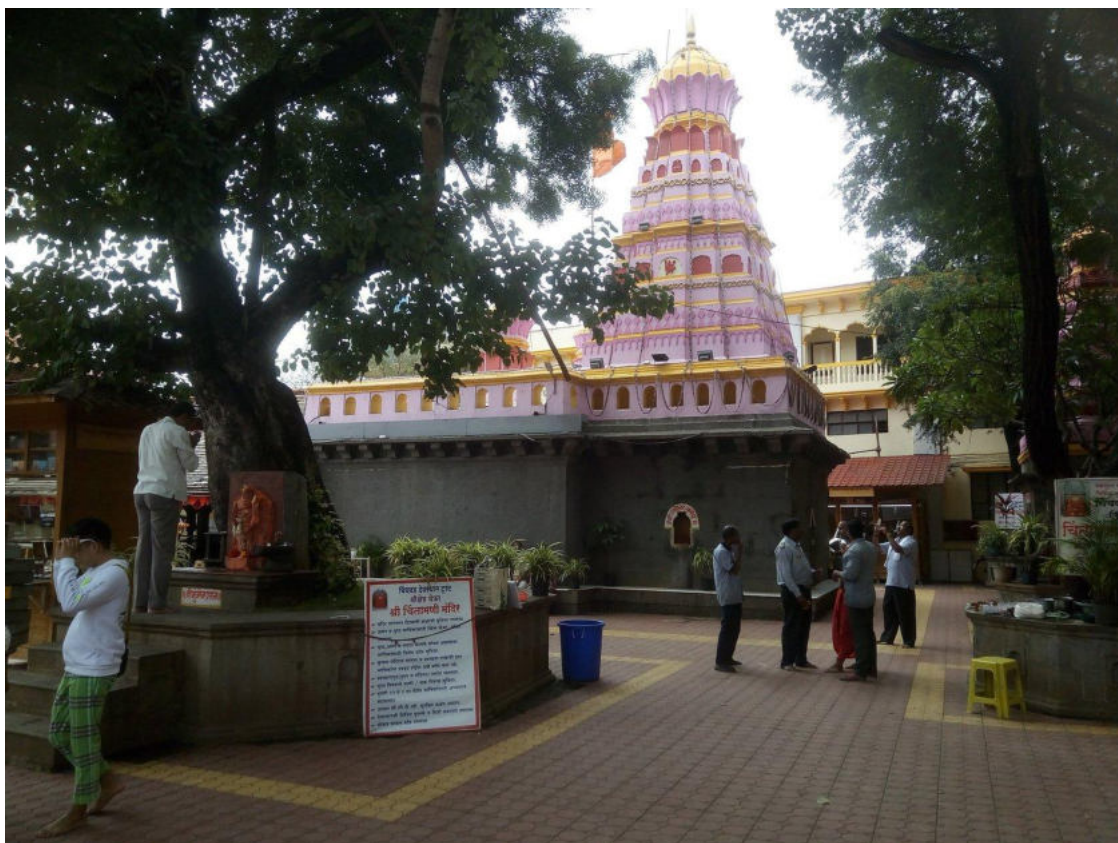
Ref: tripadvisor.in : Photos





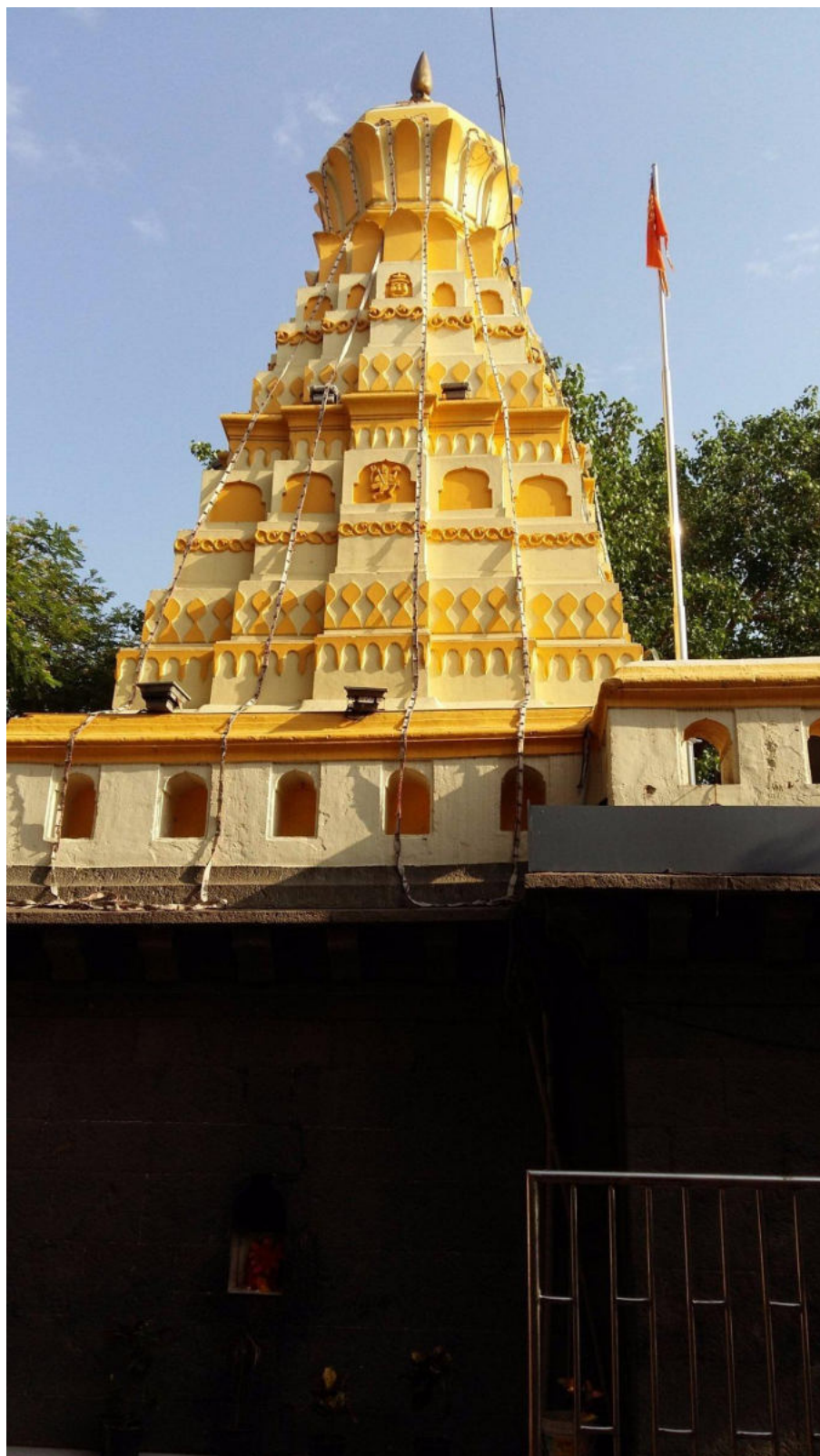


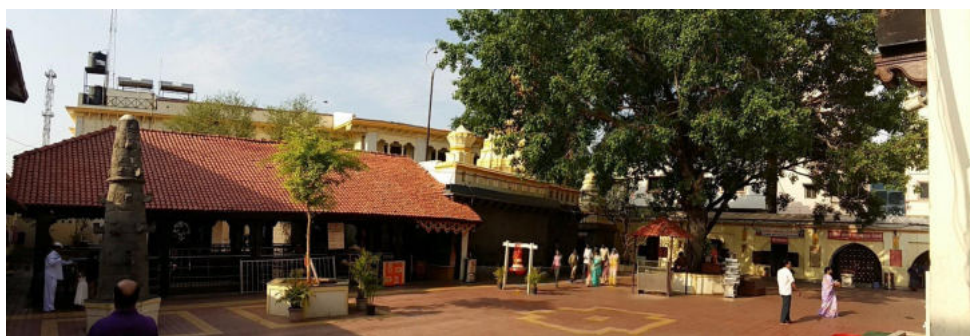
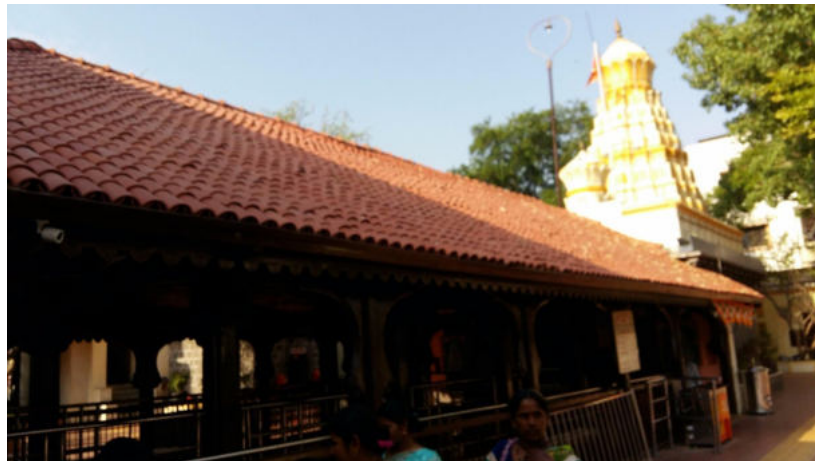




















Ref: FaceBook page: Ashtavinayaka Chintamani Temple Theur: Photos:

















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 परिसरात तारमळा
 काकडे मळा रोडटच 2
 गुंठे विकणे आहे
 1 KM थेऊरगाव
 2 KM कुंजीरवाडी
 सोलापुर हाईवे
 1 KM थेऊरफाटा
 सोलापुर हाईवे
 4 KM MIT SCHOOL
 KM रेल्वे स्टेशन लोणी
 काळभोर

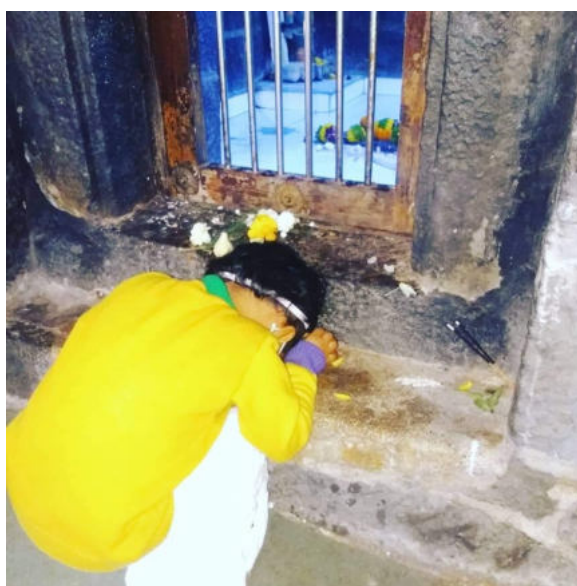


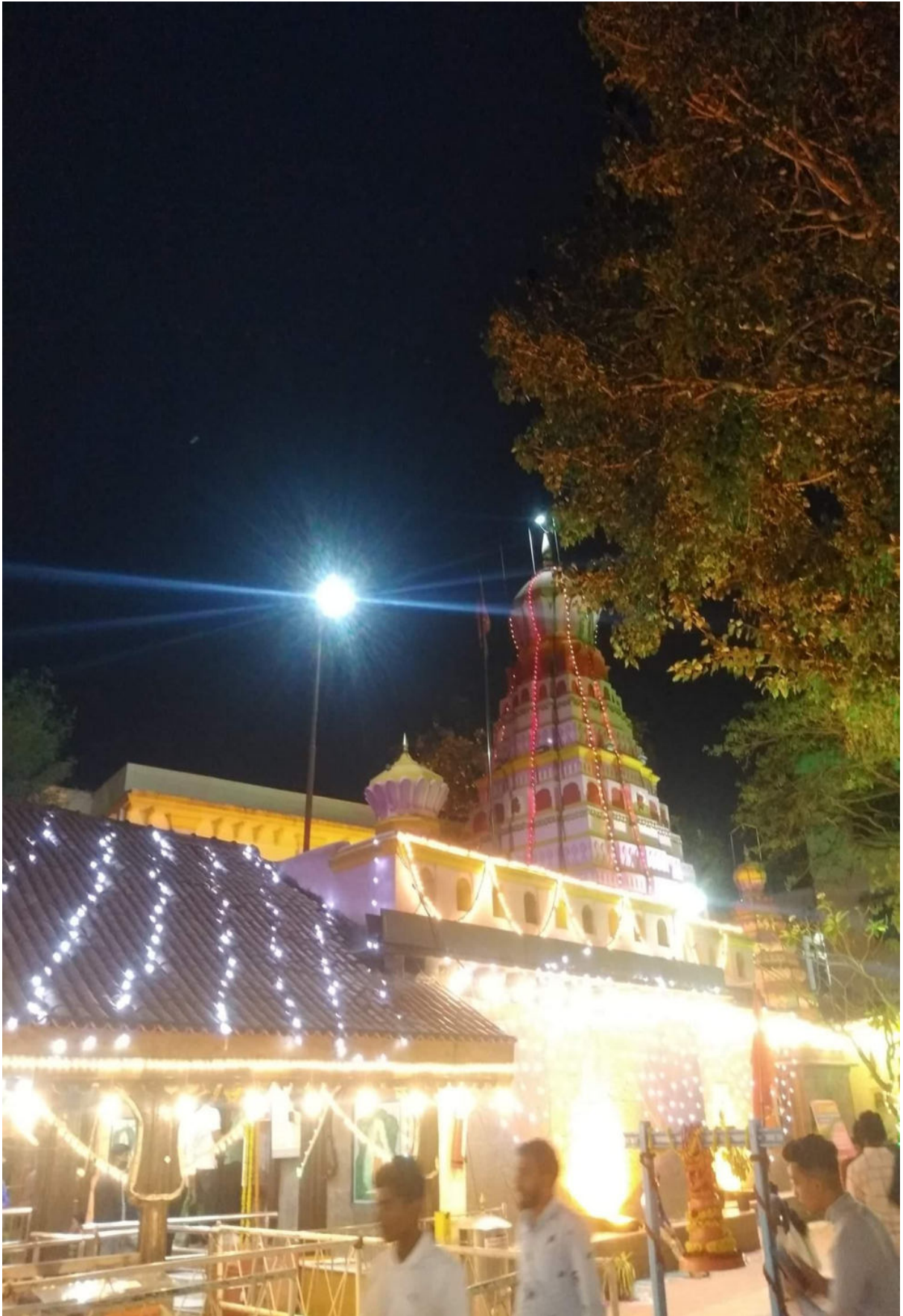














ASHAVINAYAKA CHINTAMANI TEMPLE THEUR

SASANE ASSOCIATES **ससाणे असोसिएट्स**

नितीन रतन ससाणे 9822008818 / 9146016677

281, ससाणे ज हाऊस, ससाणे आळी, न्यू इंग्लिश स्कूल जवळ, हडपसर पुणे - 411028

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Sasane Associates sasaneassociates Nitin Ratan Sasane

YouTube videos:

Story of Chintamani Temple: <https://youtu.be/4hRkbl0C87M>

Chintamani Temple: https://youtu.be/8rq_W2EblvE

Unknown facts of Chintamani Temple: <https://youtu.be/FsDvVqCGiyk>

Chintamani Ganapati: <https://youtu.be/C0lehOMcsb8>

Chintamani darshan: <https://youtu.be/twTgN3phPGQ>

Chintamani Ganapati Temple: <https://youtu.be/SsdNCUQzVN4>

Famous Chintamani Temple: <https://youtu.be/l4QznKgqxd0>

Chintamani Ganapati: <https://youtu.be/HMOeHRLbTn8>

Chintamani Ganapati: <https://youtu.be/mQLDiE4TpuQ>

Chintamani darshan: <https://youtu.be/re2-SYtcdw4>

Chintamani Vinayaka (Kannada): <https://youtu.be/KQdJSifeX0c>

Chintamani story: <https://youtu.be/M9JgKB9v3fl>

Chintamani Ganapati Temple: <https://youtu.be/v2DSuzfAIOA>

Chintamani Ganapati bhajans: <https://youtu.be/cNx3SFKtgh8>

Chintamani official song: <https://youtu.be/FOw4g9T1LcQ>

Chintamani Ganesh stotra: <https://youtu.be/OpBuTWXojBk>

Chintamani Ganesha - song: <https://youtu.be/ZmbEH-2vquM>

Shri Chintamani mantra: https://youtu.be/doz_VOJdmAQ

Superhighway Ganesh Bhakti songs jukebox: <https://youtu.be/gi2NXUjjBlk>

Chintamani special song: <https://youtu.be/Y8JMfqv3z0U>

Superhit Chintamani songs by Asha Bhonsle, Hariharan etc: <https://youtu.be/OL8PqaD7eal>

Ganesh chaturthi special song: <https://youtu.be/4m5vxdOB8MM>

Ashtavinayak Aarti: <https://youtu.be/OFX5695JBIU>

Morning Aarti: <https://youtu.be/-k16cdT5ZWs>

Ganesha devotional: <https://youtu.be/yXvYliki4Lg>

Ganapati Devotional songs: https://youtu.be/cFMaKG_Cfns

Ganapati Devotional Songs: <https://youtu.be/7kCyvQGvJD4>



ॐ स॒ह ना॑ ववतु । स॒ह नो॑ भुनक्तु । स॒ह वी॒र्यं॑ करवावहै । ते॒ज॒स्विना॒वधी॑तमस्तु मा वि॒द्विषा॑वहै ॥ (3)

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Ashtavinayak Temples of Maharashtra - Part - VI

Shri Girijatmaj Ganapati temple Lenyadri

Compiled by
Dr. M. Thirumaleshwar
Email: tmuliya@rediffmail.com



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Lenyadri (Marathi: लेण्याद्री, Leṇyādrī)

Lenyadri, sometimes called Ganesa Lena, Ganesh Pahar Caves, are a series of about 30 rock-cut Buddhist caves, located about 4.8 kilometres (3.0 mi) north of Junnar in Pune district in the Indian state of Maharashtra. Other caves surrounding the city of Junnar are: Manmodi Caves, Shivneri Caves and Tulja Caves. The Lenyadri caves date between the 1st and 3rd century AD and belong to the Hinayana Buddhism tradition.[1][2]

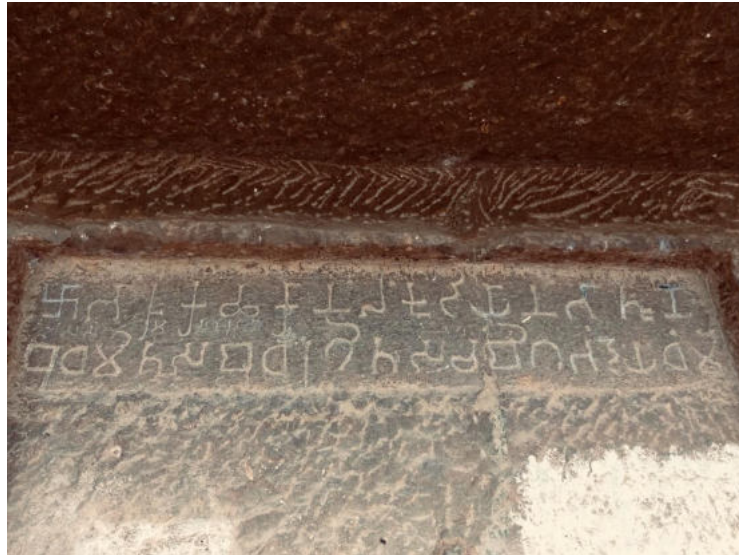


Twenty-six of the caves are individually numbered. The caves face to the south and are numbered serially from east to west.[1][3][4] Caves 6 and 14 are chaitya-grihas (chapels), while the rest are viharas (dwellings for monks). The latter are in the form of dwellings and cells. There are also several rock-cut water cisterns; two of them have inscriptions. The layout of the caves, in general, are similar in pattern and shape. They generally have one or two sides with two long benches for occupants' use.[1][3][4]

Two of the central cells of Cave 7 – originally a Buddhist vihara – were at an unknown later date appropriated for the worship of the Hindu god Ganesha. The rest of the cells and the hall of Cave 7 remain in their original form.[5] This Ganesha Lena vihara is one of the Ashtavinayak shrines, a set of the eight prominent Ganesha shrines in Western Maharashtra. In regional mythology, this is the Girijatmaja cave where goddess Parvati desired to be a mother and where Ganesha was born.[6]

The current name "Lenyadri" literally means "mountain cave". It is derived from 'Lena' in Marathi meaning "cave" and 'adri' in Sanskrit meaning "mountain" or "stone".[7] The name "Lenyadri" appears in the Hindu scripture Ganesha Purana as well as in a Sthala Purana, in association to the Ganesha legend.[1] It is also called Jeernapur and Lekhan parvat ("Lekhan mountain").[8]

The hill was once known as Ganesh Pahar ("Ganesha hill"). An ancient inscription calls the place Kapichita (Kapichitta). The caves are also known as Ganesh Lena or Ganesh Caves.[1]



Lenyadri cave inscriptions

Geography

Lenyadri is located at 19°14'34"N 73°53'8"E, in the Indian state of Maharashtra in Pune district. Lenyadri is a deserted location, with no human settlement nearby.[9] It is located at about 4.8 kilometres (3.0 mi) from Junnar, the headquarters of Junnar taluka.[10][11] It is situated on the north-west banks of river Kukadi, which flows between Golegaon and Junnar.[8] It is also approached through Nanaghat, which was originally on the trade route between Aparantaka or the northern Konkan and the Deccan and descending to the plains of the Junnar town. The circular hill, where Lenyadri caves have been emboweled, raises about 30 metres (98 ft) above the plains in the Hatkeshwar and Suleiman ranges.[4]

Lenyadri is the only Ashtavinayaka temple on a mountain and within the precincts of Buddhist caves.[12]

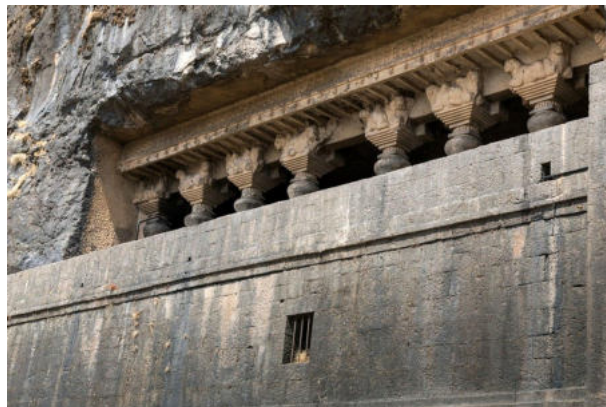
Cave 7: Ganesh temple

Architecture

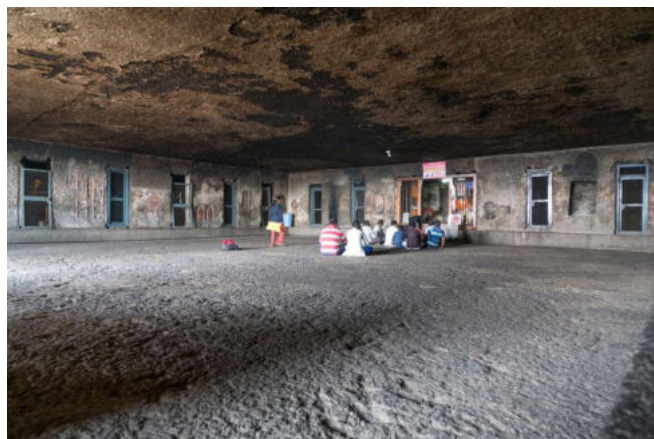
The Ganesha temple is located in Cave 7, the largest excavation around Junnar, about 30 metres (98 ft) above the plains. It is essentially a Buddhist Vihara (a dwelling for monks, mostly with meditation cells) in design, an unpillared hall with 20 cells with varying dimensions; 7 on either side and 6 on the rear wall. The hall is large, can be entered by a central door, under a pillared veranda. The hall is 17.37 metres (57.0 ft) long; 15.54 metres (51.0 ft) wide and 3.38 metres (11.1 ft) high. There are 2 windows on either side of the

entrance.[1][4] The hall is treated now as a sabha-mandapa ("assembly hall") of the Ganesha temple. 283 steps built (by devotees) in stone masonry over eight flights lead to the entrance.[9][13] The steps are believed to represent sensual pleasures, which Ganesha has overcome.[10] The veranda has six pillars and two pilasters (half-pillars), that support "an architrave from which projects eaves relieved with a railing resting on beams and rafters".[1] The pillars have octagonal shafts and "over benches and back rest and topped by an inverted ghata, compressed amalaka in between two square plates, inverted stepped pyramid and finally crowned by a bracket" with tigers, elephants and bulls.[1][3]

In a later period, the two central cells of the rear wall have been combined by breaking the partition in between to house the Ganesha image.[1] The old entrance was also widened during the conversion to the Ganesha temple. There are two other smaller entrances to the hall. All entrances bear marks of sockets for fixing wooden doors, added during the conversion,[3] and still have doors. The hall also has traces of plaster and paintings,[1] both added during the conversion and renewed in later times - possibly as late as the 19th century.[14] The Gazetteer of the Bombay Presidency (1882) records that the hall was plastered and white-washed. The paintings depicted Ganesha's childhood, marriage preparations, battle with demons and so forth, along with scenes of other Hindu deities like Devi, Krishna, Vishnu and Shiva.[3]



Lenyadri Cave 7



Inside cave no. 7

The Ganesha form worshipped here is called Girijatmaja (Sanskrit: गिरिजात्मज). The name is either interpreted as "mountain-born"[13][15] or as "Atmaja of Girija", the son of Parvati, who herself is daughter of the mountain Himavan, a personification of the mountains of Himalayas. The features of the Ganesha icon, seen on the back wall of the cave, are the least distinct vis-a-vis the other Ashtavinayak temples. Though the temple faces the inauspicious south, - according to a local tradition - the deity faces north, with his back to his worshipper and his face visible on the other side of the mountain. The Peshwa rulers even tried in vain to locate the face of Ganesha on the other side.[9][13][16] The central icon was covered with brass-plated wooden armour, given as a gift by Junnar.[3] The armour is not present currently. After it was removed, Ganesha could be seen with his trunk turned to the left side, facing east, with one of his eyes visible. The icon is covered with sindoor and is directly formed/sculpted on the stone wall of the cave.

Like all Ashtavinayak temples, the central Ganesha image is believed to be svayambhu (self-existent), a naturally occurring stone formation resembling an elephant-face.[17]

Legend



The sanctum and central icon

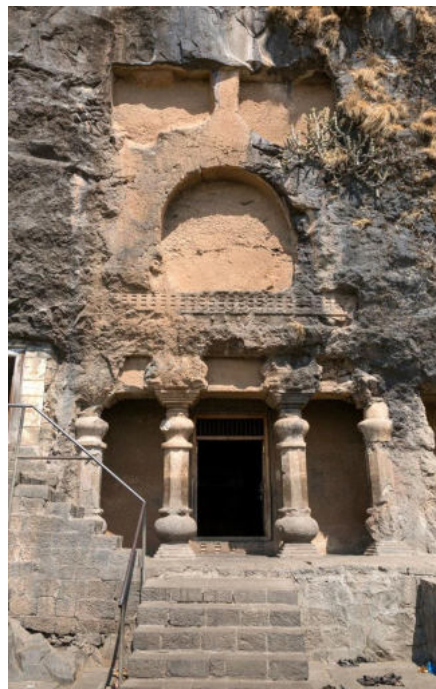
According to the Ganapatya scripture Ganesha Purana, Ganesha incarnated as Mayuresvara or Mayureshwar (Mayūreśvara), who had six arms and a white complexion. His mount was a peacock. He was born to Shiva and Parvati in the Treta Yuga, for the purpose of killing the demon Sindhu.[18]

Once Parvati (Girija) asked her husband Shiva who he was meditating on. He said he was meditating on "the supporter of the entire universe" - Ganesha, and initiated Parvati with the Ganesha Mantra "Gam". Desiring to have a son, Parvati underwent austerities meditating on Ganesha, for twelve years at Lenyadri. Pleased by her penance, Ganesha blessed her with the boon that he will be born as her son. Accordingly, on the fourth lunar day of the bright fortnight of the Hindu month Bhadrapada (Ganesh chaturthi day), Parvati worshipped a clay image of Ganesha, which came alive. Thus, Ganesha was born to Parvati at Lenyadri. Later, he was named Gunesha by Shiva. Shiva gave him a boon that whosoever remembers him before starting a job, will successfully complete that task. For 15 years Gunesha grew up at Lenyadri. Sindhu, who knew that his death would be at the hands of Gunesha, sent demons like Krur, Balasur, Vyomasur, Kshemma, Kushal, and many more, to kill Gunesha, but all of them were instead killed by him. At the age of six, the architect-god Vishwakarma worshipped Gunesha and endowed him with the weapons Pasha (noose), Parashu (axe), Ankusha (hook) and Padma (Lotus). Once, little Gunesha knocked an egg from a mango tree, from which emerged a peacock. Gunesha mounted the peacock and assumed the name Mayuresvara. Mayuresvara later killed Sindhu and his army-generals at Morgaon, the most important Ashtavinayaka temple.[16][18][19]

Worship

Lenyadri is one of the eight revered Ganesha temples collectively called Ashtavinayaka. The caves including the temple lie under the control of the Archaeological Survey of India. Sardar Deshpande is the priest in charge of the temple's activities.[11] He does not stay in Lenyadri. The priests are Yajurvedi Brahmins.[4][9] The festivals of Ganesh Jayanti and Ganesh Chaturthi are celebrated in the temple, when pilgrims crowd all Ashtavinayak temples.[2][20]

Chaityas (chapels):Cave 6



Front of Cave 6, main Chaitya



Lenyadri Chaitya hall, cave No.6

Cave 6 is the main chaitya-griha of the Lenyadri caves and one of the earliest examples of a Hinayana chaitya-griha.[1] Its plan is similar to the Ajanta Caves chaitya-griha, though smaller in size. It has a veranda, pillars and pilasters with animal-capitals, and a shrine with 5 steps at the entrance. The shrine hall is entered by a plain and a socketed-door measuring 1.8 metres (5.9 ft) in width and 2.79 metres (9.2 ft) in height. The hall measures 13.3 metres (44 ft) in length; 6.7 metres (22 ft) in width and 7 metres (23 ft) in height. It has a row of five pillars and one pilaster on each side of the chaitya or Dagoba or stupa (central relic-shrine), located at the rear of the hall. A start was made on a typical large arched window above the entrance, but this was never completed, and remains a blind recess.



Lenyadri Chaitya pillar capitals.



Chaitya dagoba.

The Satakarni period pillars begin with a four-plated pyramid structure, then a waterpot base, followed by an eight-sided shaft, above a reversed pot, then a capital in five plates, and on the top the amalaka or cogwheel pattern. The capital has animal figures like lions, elephants, a sphinx and tigers. Parts of the pillar are broken. Behind the relic-shrine, are six eight-sided pillars, arranged in a curve. "The stupa consists of a drum with a moulding below and railing above, a globular dome and a corbelled (with "a projection jutting out from a wall to support a structure above it") [21] dome with a railing at the base." The stupa has Buddhist tridents carved on it. A hole is carved for fixing garlands in the front and 5 holes on the top probably to fix a central wooden umbrella and side flags. A 2nd century, swastika-flanked inscription on the back wall of the veranda translates: "A meritorious gift of a chapel cave by the distinguished Sulasadata, son of Heranika of Kalyana [modern Kalyan near Mumbai]." [1] [3]

Between caves 5 and 6, on higher level, is an excavation originally intended either for a dwelling or for a seat, but converted into a cistern following discovery of a rock-fault. On its left side is a bench. [3]

Cave 14

This cave, also a chaitya-griha, has a flat roof. However, it has no pillars in the hall that measures 6.75 metres (22.1 ft) in length; 3.93 metres (12.9 ft) in width and 4.16 metres (13.6 ft) in height. It has a pillared veranda; pillars are in octagonal shape. The stupa is in three steps with a base of 2.6 metres (8.5 ft) diameter. The rim has a railing design surrounded by a cylindrical drum with "a square harmika with a railing pattern and an inverted stepped pyramidal abacus." A carved chhatra covers the ceiling. The pillars of the veranda consist of octagonal shafts resting on a ghata base over a stepped pedestal. An inverted kalasha

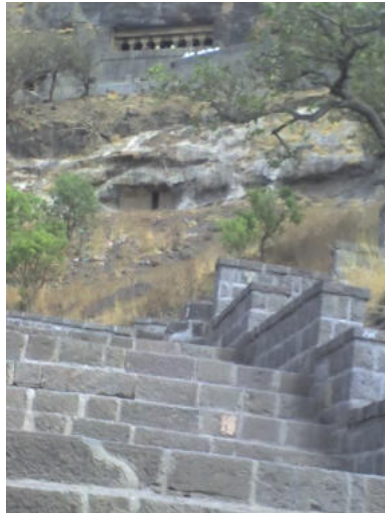
adorns the top, which also has a corbelled abacus. Inscriptions on the back wall of the veranda dates the cave to the 2nd century A.D. The inscription translates as: "A meritorious gift of a chapel cave given by Ananda, a son of Tapasa and grandson of Upasaka." [1][3][22]



Lenyadri cave complex...caves numbered from right to left



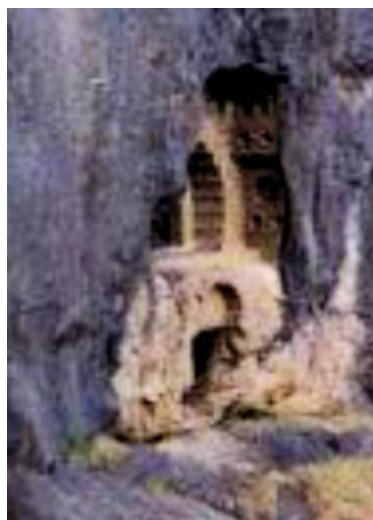
Lenyadri pillars and a monkey



Approach to Ganesha temple, cave 7



Inside of a vihara



Small chaitya cave

Ref: myoksha.com

Lenyadri Girijatmaj Ganpati Temple Guide –

Vigneshwara Ashtavinayak – Timings, Poojas and Significance:

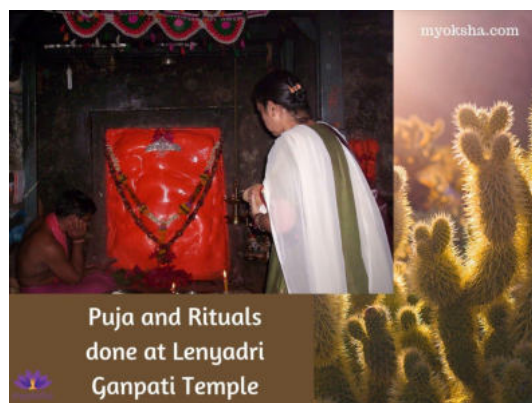


Lenyadri Ganpati Temple is dedicated to Lord Ganesha. It is one of the eight Ashtavinayak Temples in Maharashtra. The temple is also known as Girijatmaj temple. It gets its name from the words Girija (Parvathi) and Atmaj (son), thus the son of Parvati. This is the only Ashtavinayak temple which is on a mountain.

Timings and puja of Lenyadri Ganpati Temple-

Here're the darshan timings of Lenyadri Ganpati Temple:

TIMINGS	FROM	TO
Darshan	6 AM	6 PM
Panchamrit puja	8 AM	



What is the significance of Lenyadri Ganpati Temple?

The significance of Lenyadri Ganpati Temple is that amidst a cluster of rock-cut Buddhist caves. It is one of the Ashtavinayak temples. Devotees believe that Lord Girijatmaj was Lord Ganesh's manifestation as an infant Lord. Rather, it is carved on a rock, with its head turned to the left.

According to Ganesh Puran, this place is also known as Jirnapur or Lekhan Parbat. Moreover, Devotees believe that the Pandavas carved the caves during their exile period. Lenyadri Ganpati temple is south-facing and monolithic – carved out from a single rock.

Since the Lenyadri Ganpati is rock-cut, devotees cannot circumambulate. However, they are free to worship the Lord themselves.

Furthermore, the main mandap is 53 feet long and interestingly there are no pillars supporting the entire structure.

The main mandap also known as the sabha mandap has 18 indents or small rooms that pilgrims use for meditation.

Once there, a serene atmosphere, with pleasant vibrations from the Lekhan mountain and a beautiful view of the nearby Kukadi river is a treat for the senses.



The divine Idol of Lord Ganesh in Lenyadri Ganpati Temple

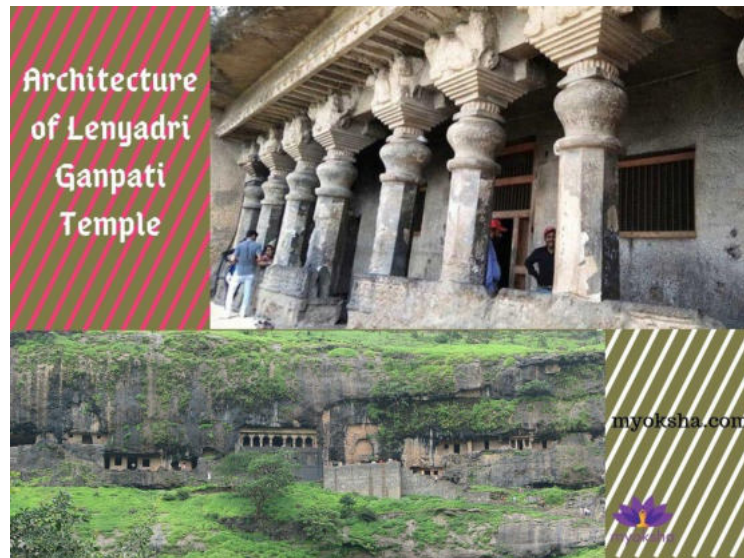
Legends of Lenyadri Ganpati Temple

The history of Lenyadri Ganapati temple relates to the following Legend:

Legend of Girijatmaj: According to Ganesh Puran, Goddess Sati reincarnated as Parvati and wished to give birth to Ganesh. She did severe penance on the Lenyadri mountain. On the fourth day of Bhadrapad Shuddh or Chaturthi day, Goddess Parvati wiped her body and used the dirt to create an idol.

Lord Gajanan entered this idol and stood before her a young boy with six arms and three eyes. His name was Girijatmaj or the son of Parvati. This incarnation of Lord Ganesh – Lord Girijatmaj is believed to have stayed at Lenyadri for nearly 15 years.

The architecture of Lenyadri Ganpati Temple



The unique cave architecture of Lenyadri Temple.

The caverns date from between the first and third century AD. the Ganesha sanctum arranged in Cave 7 is dated to the first century AD. However, the date of transformation to a Hindu holy place is obscure. The majority of the caverns emerge from Hinayana Buddhism.

It is basically a Buddhist Vihara in structure, an unpillared lobby with 20 cells with shifting measurements. The lobby is huge and can be entered by a focal entryway, under a pillared veranda. The hall is now a sabha-mandapa of the Ganesha temple. 283 steps were built in stone brickwork which will lead to the passageway.



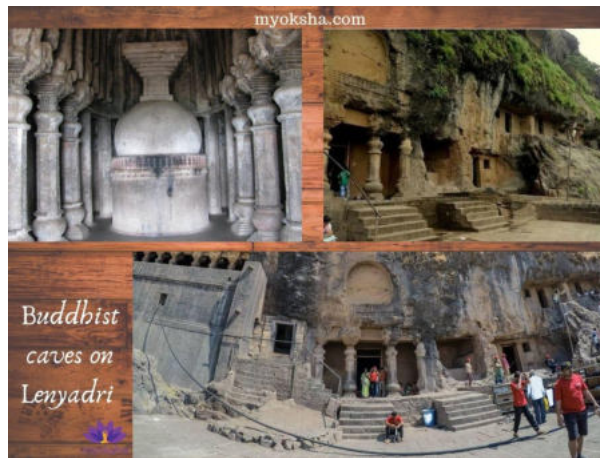
Yatri-Niwas in Lenyadri Ganpati Temple for devotees to rest.

Lenyadri Ganpati Temple trust operates Yatri Niwas and offers accommodation at nominal charges.

Temple trust has built Yatri-Niwas for lodging purpose of devotees. At a time arrangement of 300 devotees can be done. Rs.200 are charged for a room having the capacity of 10 people.

- Beddings are provided by the trust.
- A very good lunch arrangement is available at Hotel Girija.
- There are few resorts that function at Junnar.

What are some of the temples and places near Lenyadri Ganpati Temple?



Sightseeing places near Lenyadri Ganpati Temple filled with Buddhist Caves.

Here are some temples near Lenyadri Ganapati Temple:

Lenyadri Buddhist caves: Girijatmaj Temple is amidst a collection of 30 manmade rock-cut caves. These caves have functioned as Buddhist Monasteries from Lord Buddha's time. Moreover, the seventh cave is the Girijatmaj Temple. However, other caves were either chapels or living spaces for the monks.

Bhima Gada: Adjacent to the Lenyadri Ganpati Temple, cave no. 6 houses a Buddhist stupa. This is popular as Bhima's Gada. This stupa has good acoustics that allows sounds to echo.

Ref: lenyadriganapati.com

Contact:

II Shree Lenyadri Ganpati Devasthan Trust II
At Post – Golegaon, Taluka – Junnar, Dist. – Pune
Register No. A-833 (Pune)
Mob. No. 09881058665 / 08600073925

Shri Girijatmaj Lenyadri Ganpati



On the occasion of Sankashti Chaturthi, a crowd of devotees gathered at Shri Kshetra Lenyadri on Sunday. On 31st January 2021, on the occasion of Sankashti Chaturthi, there was a crowd of devotees to pay obeisance to Shri Girijatmaj Ganesh at Shri Kshetra Lenyadri (Tal. Junnar). Sankashti Chaturthi has come again in the current month of January and due to this continuous holiday on weekends, devotees were crowded for darshan throughout the day. Devasthan president Kailas Lokhande and secretary Jitendra Bidwai informed that the devotees took advantage of the darshan of Shri Girijatmaj Ganesha during the day by following the rules laid down by the government.

On behalf of Shri Lenyadri Ganpati Devasthan Trust, Trustee of Devasthan Trust Sadashiv Tamhane performed the abhishek and Maha Puja of Shri. Devasthan Vice President Sanjay

Dhekne, Secretary Jitendra Bidwai, Treasurer Kashinath Lokhande, Trustee Shankar Tamhane, Govind Meher, Prabhakar Jadhav, Machhindrasheth Shete, Prabhakar Gadde, Jaywant Doke, Bhagwan Hande and staff as well as devotees were present on this occasion. After that the devotees took advantage of the darshan. The idol of Shri Girijatmaja and the temple were decorated with attractive flowers. Maha Aarti was performed at 12:00 noon. Various rituals were performed throughout the day. The crowd was planned by the temple for easy access to the devotees. Social disturbance observance, mask use and sanitizer use were made mandatory. A sanitizer stand was erected on the Darshan Marg on behalf of the temple. Shri Maha Aarti was performed at the time of Chandrodaya at night. Throughout the day, dignitaries from various fields took advantage of Shri's Darshan and a large number of devotees from Junnar area and from Pune, Nagar, Mumbai, Thane and Nashik came to pay their respects to Shri. This information was given by Kailas Lokhande, President of the Devasthan and Jitendra Bidwai, Secretary.



On the occasion of Sankashti Chaturthi, Shri Girijatmajas will be decorated with attractive flowers at Shri Kshetra Lenyadri on Thursday. On the occasion of Sankashti Chaturthi on 03rd December 2020, attractive flowers were decorated to Shri Girijatmaj Ganpati at Shri Kshetra Lenyadri (Tal. Junnar). As it was Sankashti Chaturthi for the first time after Corona Illness and Lockdown, there was a crowd of devotees for Darshan. Devasthan president Kailas Lokhande and secretary Jitendra Bidwai informed that the devotees took advantage of the darshan of Shri Girijatmaj Ganesha during the day by following the rules laid down by the government.

On behalf of Shri Lenyadri Ganpati Devasthan Trust, Trustee of Devasthan Trust Sadashiv Tamhane performed the abhishek and Maha Puja of Shri. Devasthan Vice President Sanjay Dhekne, Treasurer Kashinath Lokhande, Trustee Shankar Tamhane, Govind Meher, Prabhakar Jadhav, Machhindrasheth Shete, Prabhakar Gadde, Jaywant Doke, Bhagwan Hande and staff as well as devotees were present on this occasion. After that the devotees took advantage of the darshan. The idol of Shri Girijatmaja and the temple were decorated with attractive flowers. Maha Aarti was performed at 12:00 noon. Various rituals were performed throughout the day. The shrine was planned by the temple to protect the devotees from Corona disease and to make it easier for the devotees to visit. Social disturbance observance, mask use and sanitizer use were made mandatory. A sanitizer stand was set up on the Darshan Marg on behalf of the temple and all the devotees were checked at the main gate. Shri Maha Aarti was performed at the time of Chandrodaya at night. Throughout the

day, dignitaries from various fields took advantage of Shri's darshan and a large number of devotees from Junnar area and from Pune, Nagar, Mumbai, Thane and Nashik came to pay obeisance to Shri. This information was given by Kailas Lokhande, President of the Devasthan and Jitendra Bidwai, Secretary.



Shri Lenyadri Ganpati Devasthan Trust has decided to close Shri Lenyadri Ganpati Mandir Darshan from 17.03.2020 to 31.03.2020 in a meeting of all trustees on 17.03.2020. Coronavirus-infected patients are being found internationally. It is strictly forbidden to take any kind of trip to tourist and religious places as the virus is transmitted through travel. As per the suggestion of the State Government and Hon'ble Collector, Shri's temple has been closed for Dev Darshan for security reasons. All devotees should take note of this. Such a request has been made on behalf of Devasthan Trust. However, we request the devotees to take note of this and cooperate.

- Shri Lenyadri Ganpati Devasthan Trust, Golegaon.

Various religious programs:

At Shri Kshetra Lenyadri on the occasion of Magh Shri Ganesh Jayanti.

On Tuesday On January 28, 2020, on the occasion of Magh Shri Ganesh Jayanti, a large crowd of devotees had gathered at the Ashtavinayak Shrine at Shri Kshetra Lenyadri (Tal. Junnar) for the darshan of Girijatmaja. Various religious programs were organized by Devasthan Trust on the occasion of Shri Ganesh Jayanti. On this occasion a big procession takes place at Lenyadri. About one lakh to one and a half lakh devotees have benefited from the darshan of Shri Girijatmaj Ganesha at Shri Kshetra Lenyadri, informed Kailash Lokhande, President of the Devasthan and Shankar Tamhane, Secretary.

Trustee Prabhakar Jadhav on behalf of Shri Lenyadri Ganpati Devasthan Trust performed Maha Abhishek and Maha Puja of Shri at 5.30 am. H.B.P. in the temple from 10 am to 12 noon. Namdev Maharaj Walke's kirtan of Devjanma was completed. After that Shri Ganesh Janmotsav was celebrated in traditional way. After this, Mahaprasada was organized by Devasthan Trust for the devotees. Devasthan President Kailas Lokhande, Secretary Shankar Tamhane, Treasurer Sadashiv Tamhane, Trustee Govind Meher, Prabhakar Jadhav, Machhindra Shete, Suresh Vani, Vijay Varnahadi, Kashinath Lokhande, Nandkumar Bidwai,

Jaywant Doke, Jitendra Bidwai, Sanjay Dhekle, Bhagwan Hande, And staff as well as devotees were present in large numbers. The idol of Shri Girijatmaja and the temple were decorated with attractive flowers. Various religious programs were held throughout the day. On the occasion of Magh Shri Ganesh Jayanti, Devasthan Trust has organized Akhand Harinam Week from Wednesday 22nd January 2020 to Wednesday 29th January 2020. HBP on Wednesday 29th January 2020 from 10 am to 12 noon. Shravan Maharaj Jagtap's kalya kirtan was performed and Akhand Harinam week came to an end. Also, since the closure of the bullock cart race, a music bhajan competition is organized on behalf of the temple. About 25 to 30 Bhajan Mandals participate in it. Crowd planning was done by the Devasthanam for easy access of devotees and various services were provided to the devotees. There was a large crowd of devotees and tourists throughout the day. Throughout the day, dignitaries from various fields took advantage of Shri's Darshan and a large number of devotees from Junnar area and from Pune, Nagar, Mumbai, Thane and Nashik came to pay their respects to Shri.



Shri Kshetra Lenyadrit Janmotsav with great enthusiasm.

On Monday On September 02, 2019, on the occasion of Bhadrapad Ganesh Chaturthi, a large crowd of devotees had gathered at the Ashtavinayak Shrine at Shri Kshetra Lenyadri (Tal. Junnar) for the darshan of Girijatmaja. Various religious programs were organized by Devasthan Trust on the occasion of Ganesh Chaturthi. The Lenyadri area had acquired the nature of a pilgrimage. About one lakh to one and a half lakh devotees took advantage of the darshan of Shri Girijatmaj Ganesha on this occasion, said Kailash Lokhande, President of the Devasthan and Shankar Tamhane, Secretary.

Shri Lenyadri Ganpati Devasthan Trust performed Maha Abhishek and Maha Puja of Shri at 4 am. H.B.P. in the temple from 10 am to 12 noon. Namdev Maharaj Walke's kirtan of Devjanma was completed. Shri Ganesh Janmotsav was celebrated in a traditional manner. After this, Mahaprasada was organized by Devasthan Trust for the devotees. Devasthan President Kailas Lokhande, Secretary Shankar Tamhane, Treasurer Sadashiv Tamhane, Trustee Govind Meher, Prabhakar Jadhav, Machhindra Shete, Suresh Vani, Kashinath Lokhande, Jaywant Doke, Jitendra Bidwai, Sanjay Dhekne, Bhagwan Hande, Golegaon villagers and devotees. Were present in numbers. The idol of Shri Girijatmaja and the temple were decorated with attractive flowers. Various religious programs were held throughout the day. On this occasion, a donation of Rs. 30,000 was made to the temple by a devotee named Atul Ganatra (Mumbai). Crowd planning was done by the Devasthanam for easy access of devotees and various services were provided to the devotees. There was a large crowd of devotees and tourists throughout the day. Throughout the day, dignitaries from various fields took advantage of Shri's Darshan and a large number of devotees from Junnar area and from Pune, Nagar, Mumbai, Thane and Nashik came to pay their respects to Shri. This information was given by Kailas Lokhande, President of the Devasthan and Shankar Tamhane, Secretary.

Accompanying photo:





Shri Girijatmaj Lenyadri Ganapati is the only Ganapati temple in Ashtavinayaka carved in the caves. Ancient legends about Lenyadri say that while the Pandavas were in exile, they carved caves at Lenyadri in one night. There are a total of 28 caves from east to west. Mr. Girijatmaj Ganesha temple is in the seventh cave. In this cave, mother Parvati performed penance for having a son for twelve years. After these twelve years of penance, Shri Ganeshji Swayambhu appeared.

Girija means mother Parvati and Atmaj means son, hence the name of this Ganaraya must have been Shri Girijatmaj. This mountain is called Lenyadri as it is full of caves. This is the mountain of Lenyadri. Shri Ganesh Temple of Lenyadri is facing south.



There are two water tanks in front of this temple. There is also a water tank in the 21st cave. It holds water all year round. The characteristic is that despite the stagnant water, very clean and naturally cool water is available in this tank for twelve months. Devotees are satisfied after drinking this cold water. Therefore, even after climbing 338 steps of Lenyadri, the fatigue of the devotees disappears.



There are large carved pillars in front of the entrance of Shri Girijatmaj Ganesh Temple, on which elephants, horses and lions are carved. There are also carved pillars in front of the entrance of other caves. There are a total of 18 caves in the sabhamandapa in front of the shrine of Shri Ganapati. All these caves are 7x10x10 feet long and wide and it is said that sages performed penance in all these caves.

Buddhist stupas are carved in the 6th and 14th caves near the Shri Ganesh Temple. This stupa is also known as Golghumat. The shape of this cave is circularly carved on the inside.

Due to this sphere, the echo of sound can be heard in this cave. The stupa is surrounded by attractive carved pillars.



The sabhamandap of Shri Girijatmaj Ganesh Mandir is 58 to 60 feet wide and there is no wall or pillar support for this sabhamandap. There are carved pillars outside the gabhara in the temple. In the overlay of the temple, various devotional paintings like Shri Gurudattatraya, an excellent example of Peshwa style painting, Shri Ganesh sitting on the lap of Shiva Parvati, Shri Balganesha playing Saripat are painted in natural colors.

In the past, it was believed that the worship of Lord Ganesha was performed on the back, but this is not the case. So it changed shape. Which means it's about to be the most delusional time of the year, as well. There are rubies in the eyes of the idol of Ganesha here. This is Shri Ganesh of the left sonde.

The pool outside the Ganapati temple has cold water for twelve months.

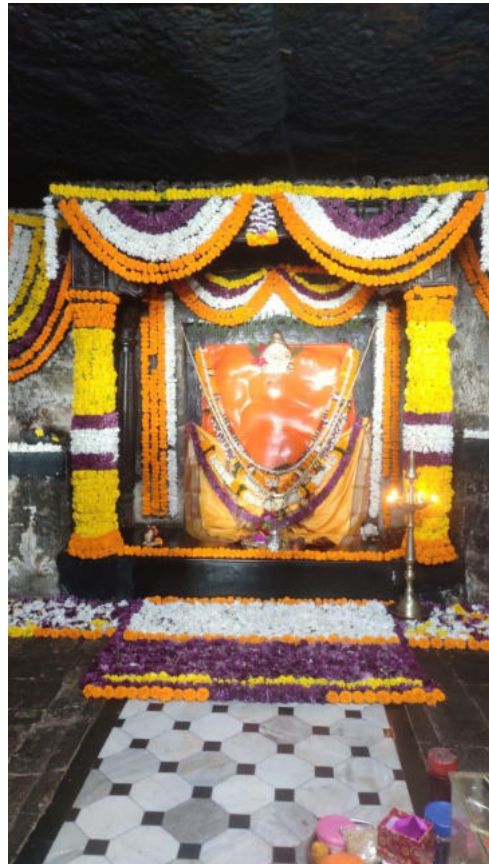
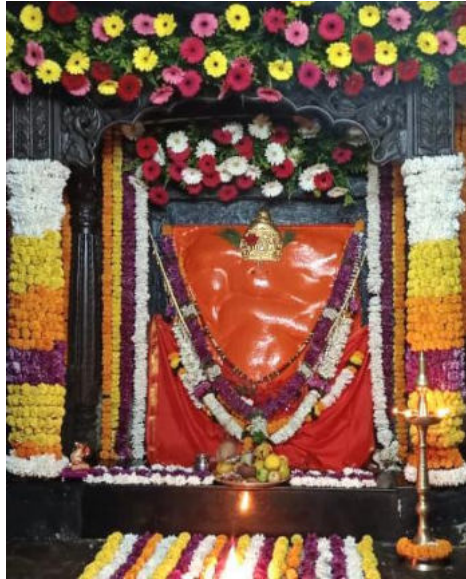
There is also a large pool of water in the 21st cave.
It is difficult for devotees to reach every cave.

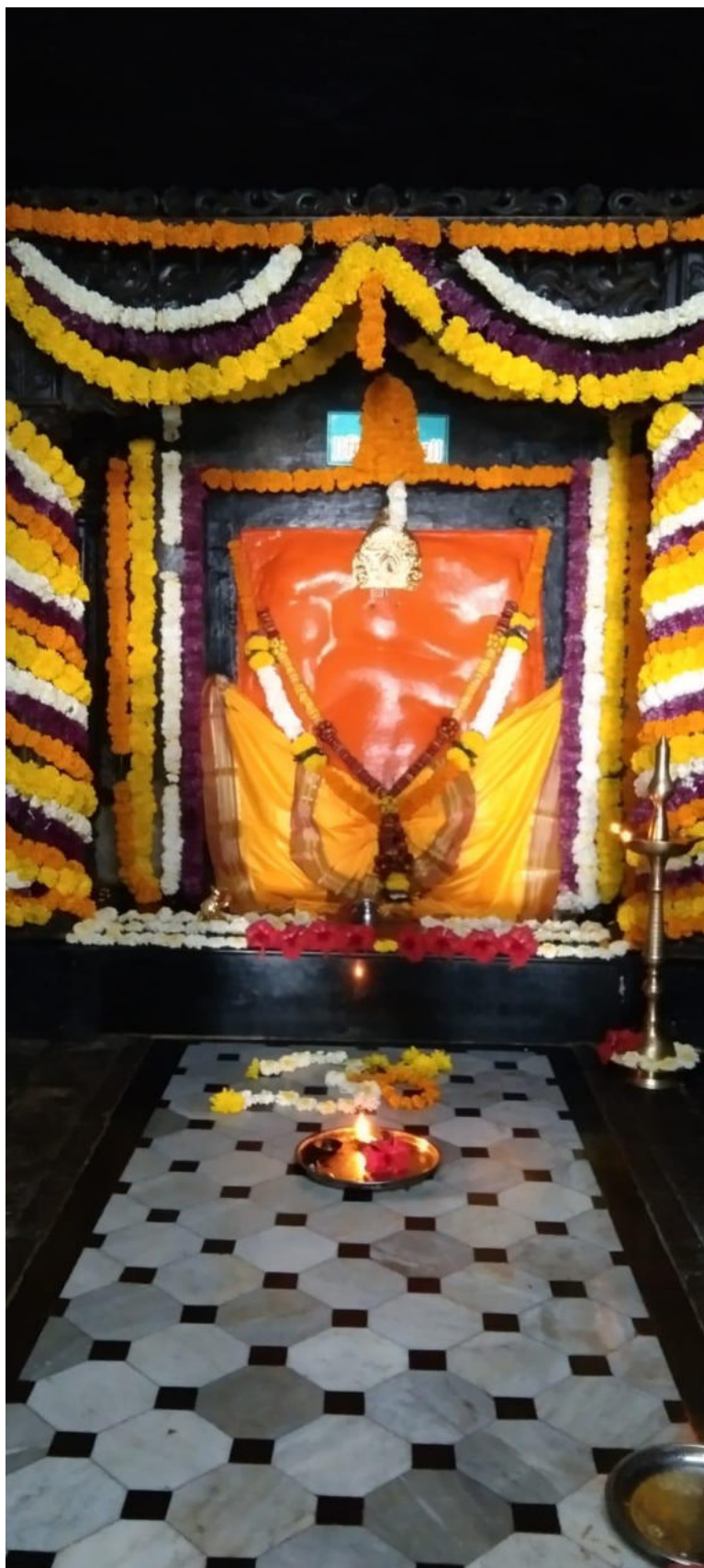
Government of Maharashtra declares Shri Kshetra Lenyadri Ganpati Devasthan as 'B' class status of pilgrimage area:



Attractive flower arrangement of Shri Girijatmaj Ganapati:

at Shri Kshetra Lenyadri on the occasion of Angarki Chaturthi:









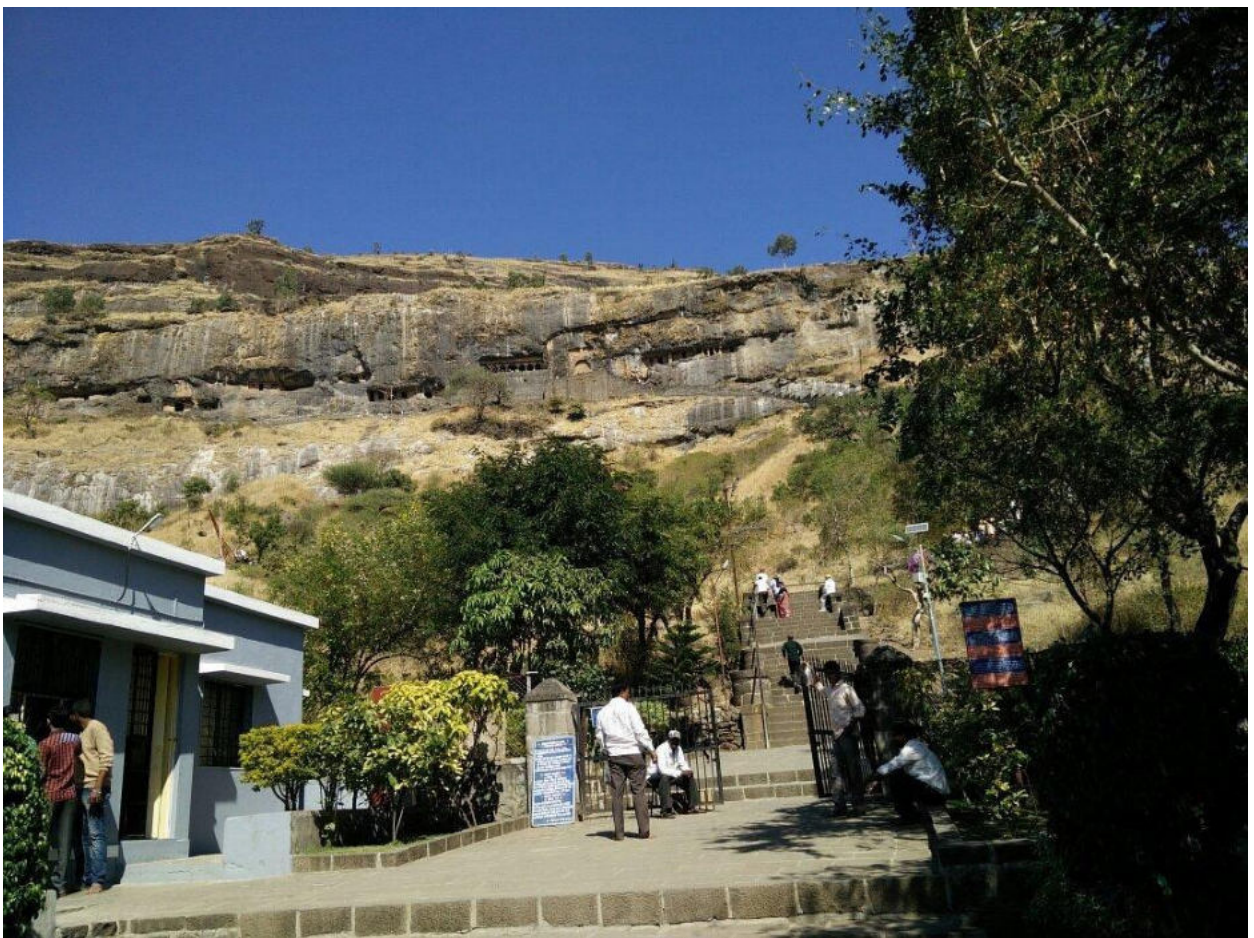


Ref: [tripadvisor.in](https://www.tripadvisor.in)





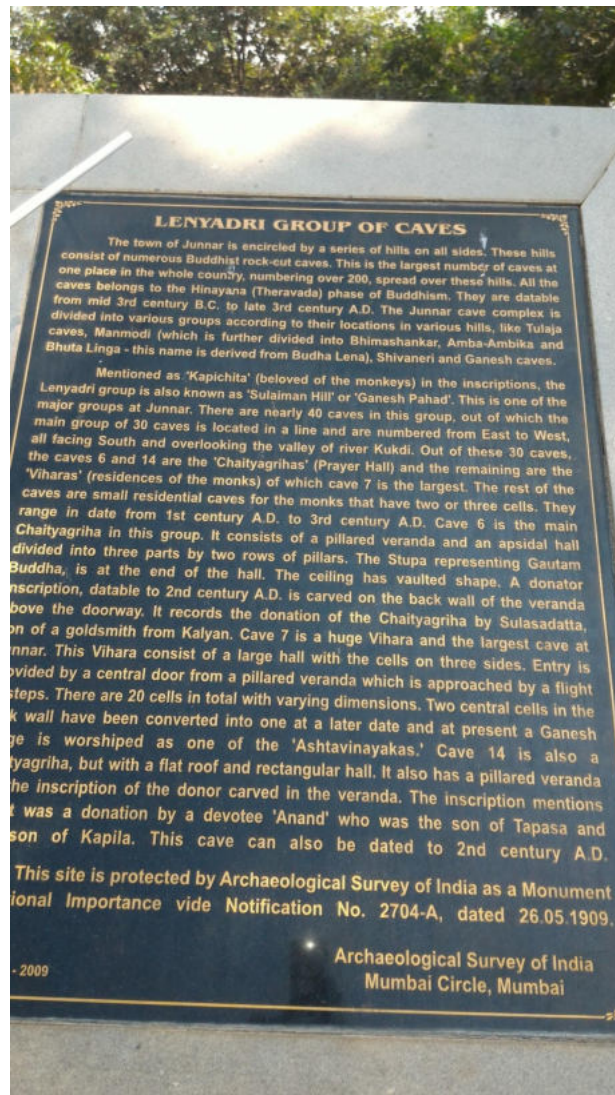


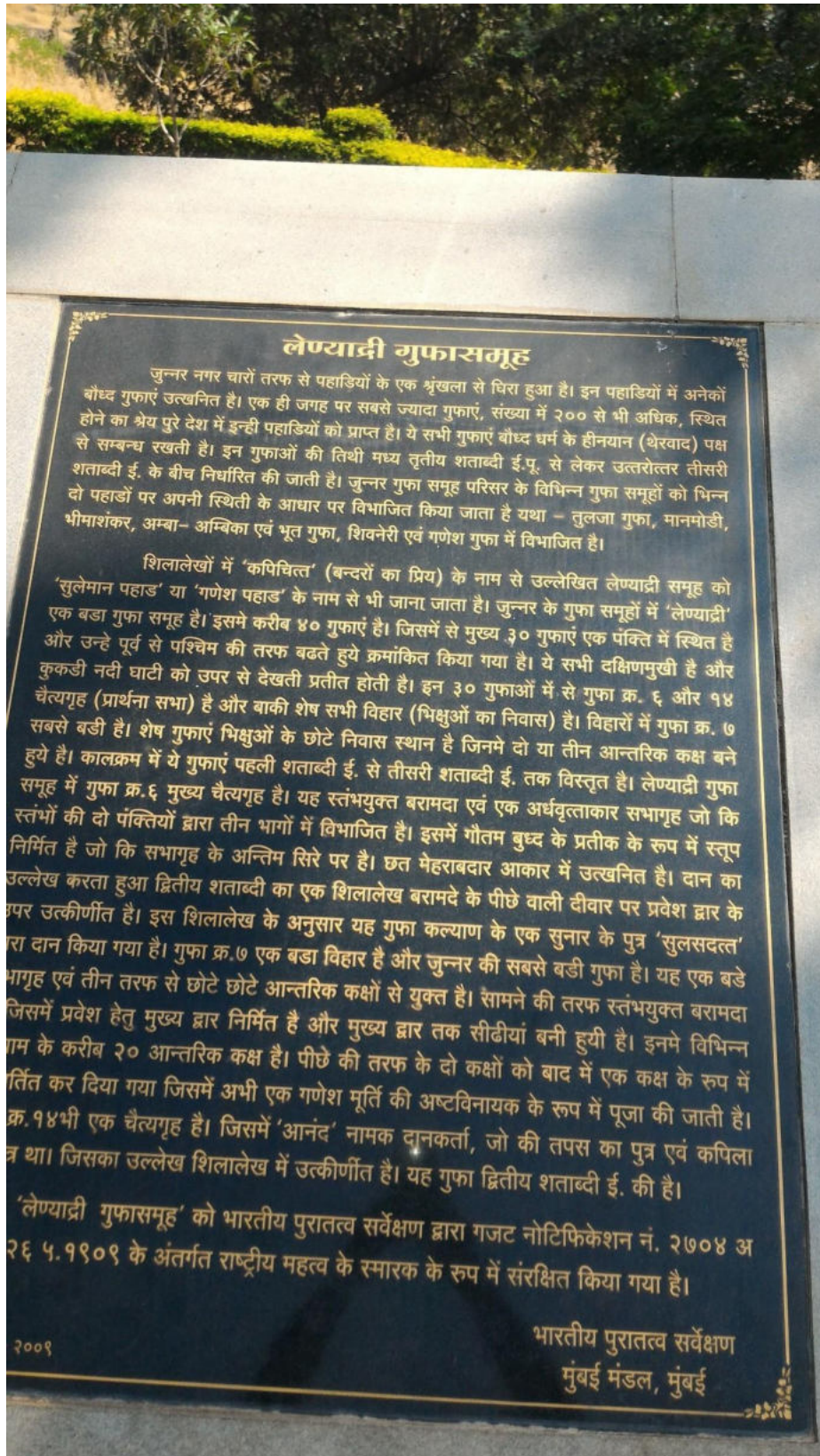








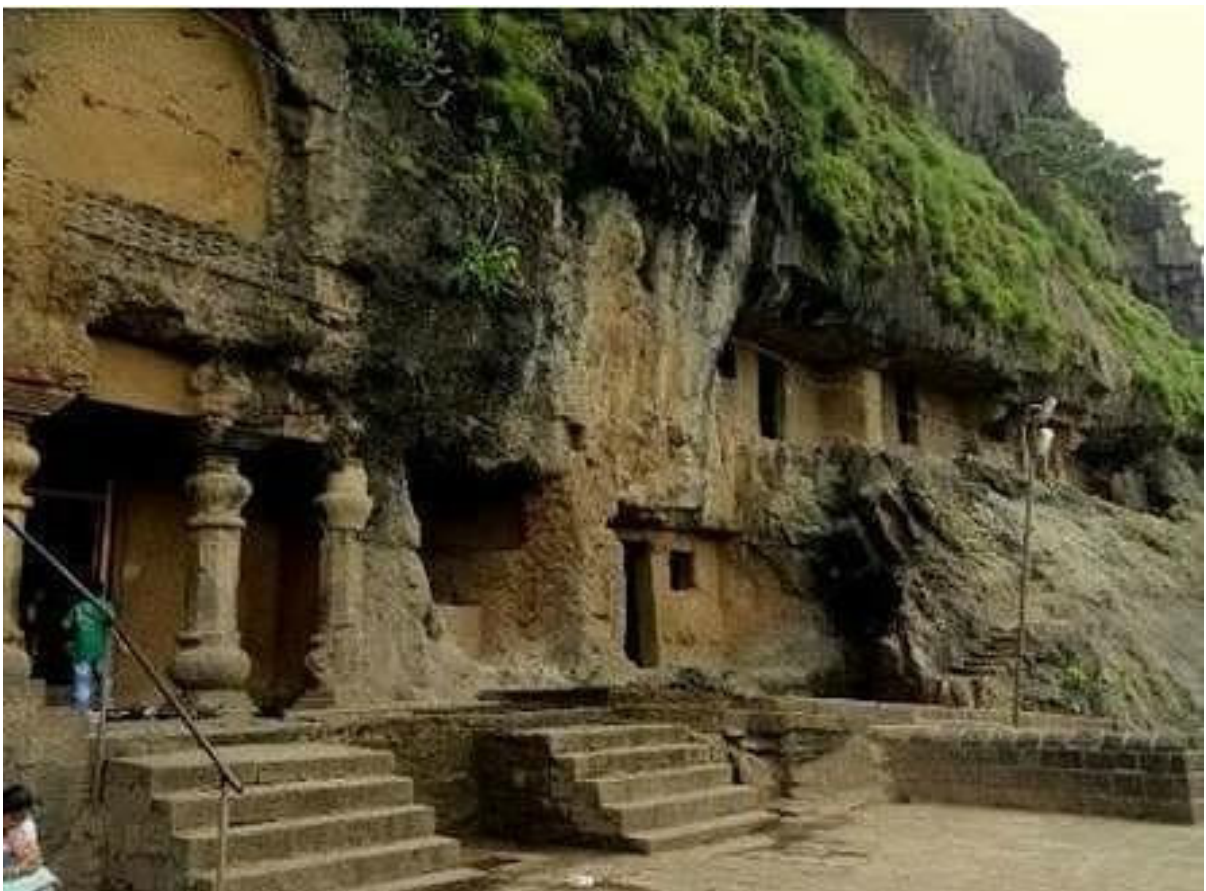




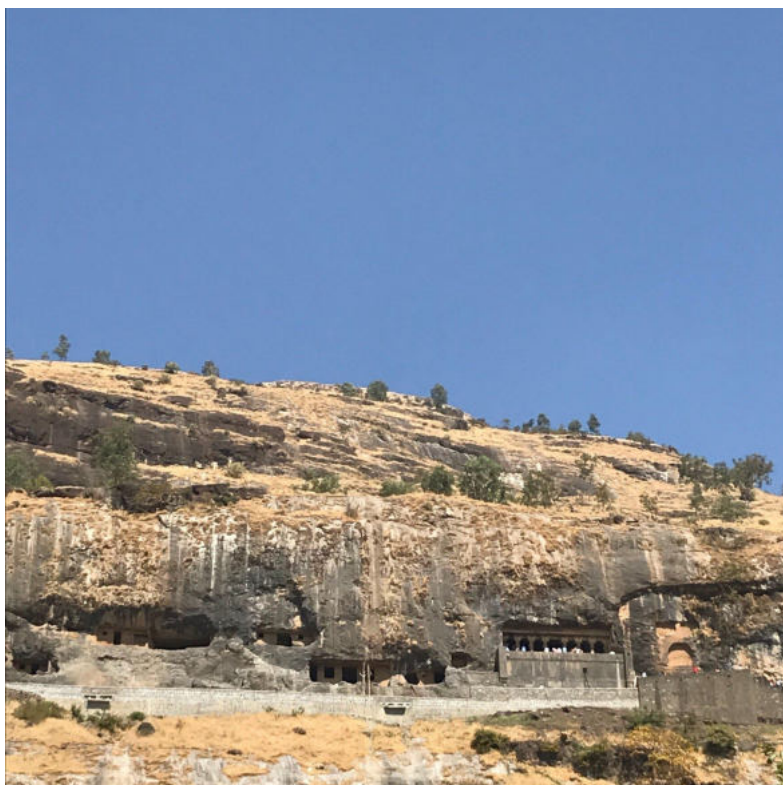




















Ref: [Google.co.in : Photos](https://www.google.co.in/photos)







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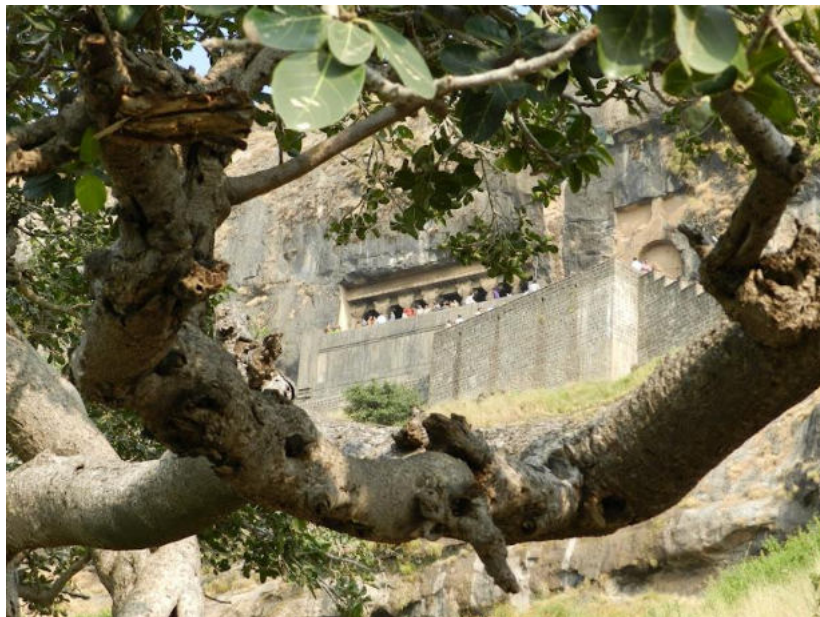


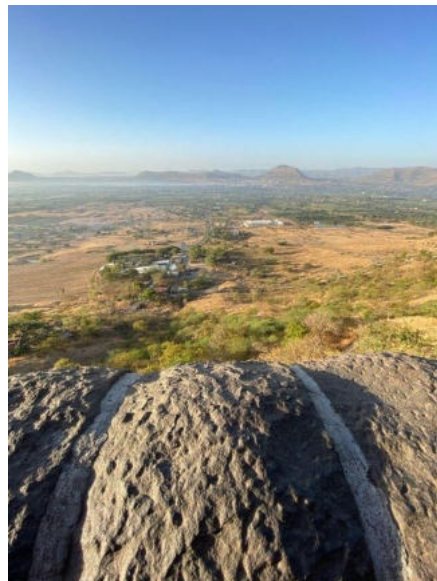


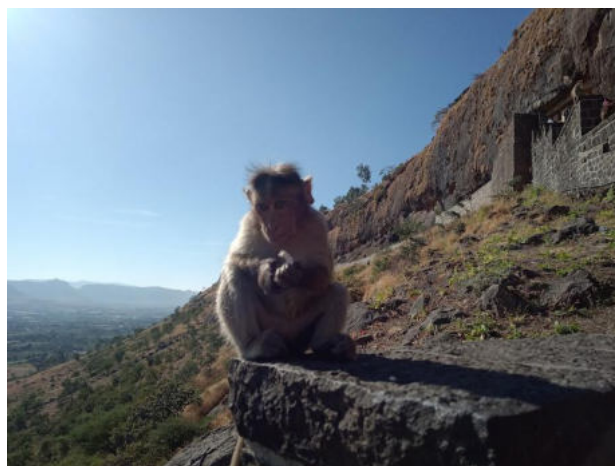


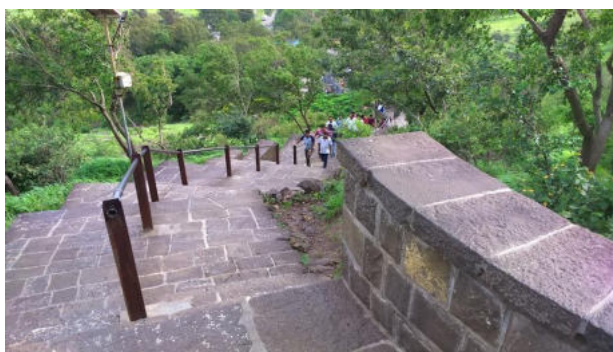






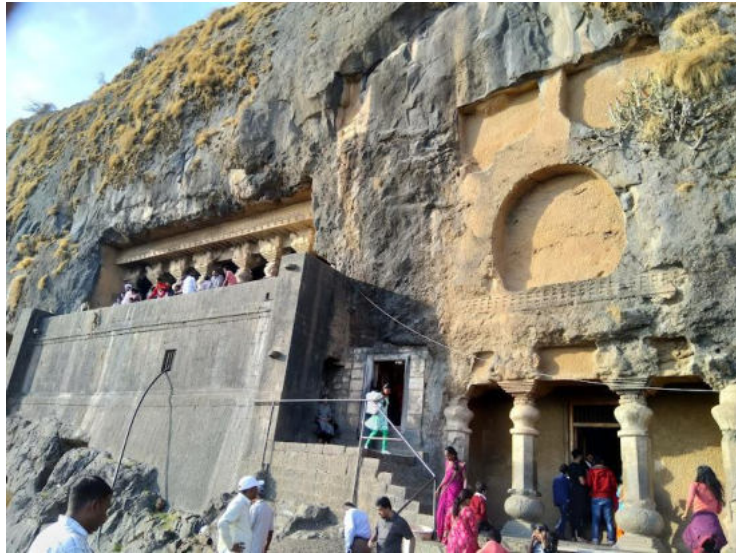












YouTube Videos:

Girijatmaj temple darshan: <https://youtu.be/oEa9UfmA9jk>

Girijatmaj Temple: True story: <https://youtu.be/qhYN7qwFA84>

Way to Lenyadri Temple: <https://youtu.be/du8vP5645fs>

Girijatmaj Ganpati and caves darshan: <https://youtu.be/EEzacmp6KbU>

Lenyadri Temple and Buddhist caves: <https://youtu.be/zeaiZIXkE1E>

Lenyadri Ganpati Temple: <https://youtu.be/MWfyD8aSN3U>

Lenyadri Temple and caves: <https://youtu.be/hcEZW6mYr4>

Girijatmaj Ganpati: https://youtu.be/rHfIH_a_d8p8

Lenyadri Ganpati Temple: Bike ride: <https://youtu.be/YSkMKeeOTcY>

Lenyadri caves and Ganapati: <https://youtu.be/wo0LwGnrLE>

Lenyadri Ganpati: Ganesh Chaturthi 2021 special: <https://youtu.be/PirHhV5mM88>

Girijatmaj Ganpati darshan: <https://youtu.be/Zv5Q81CPjag>

Lenyadri Ganpati mandir: https://youtu.be/Styqk1_8yYA

Girijatmaj Temple history: <https://youtu.be/bwp9Rkbb7Es>

Lenyadri Ganpati Temple: <https://youtu.be/UJolrHgnMI8>

Lenyadri Ganpati Temple (Kannada): <https://youtu.be/jML9iHChtqo>

Ganpati stotra: <https://youtu.be/8r7AWFkjVpw>

Ganesha stotram (Kannada): https://youtu.be/5_BN6mcBT9U

Lenyadri Girijatmaj: <https://youtu.be/mCugXI5XN94>

Sankatnashan Ganesha stotram: <https://youtu.be/N6scSqLkTE8>

Ganesha Hridaya: <https://youtu.be/HGd3sRZyiuU>

Ashtavinayak Aarti: <https://youtu.be/OFX5695JBIU>

Morning Aarti: <https://youtu.be/-k16cdT5ZWs>

Ganesha devotional: <https://youtu.be/yXvYIiki4Lg>

Ganapati Devotional songs: https://youtu.be/cFMaKG_Cfns

Ganapati Devotional Songs: <https://youtu.be/7kCyvQGvJD4>



ॐ सह ना॑ ववतु । सह नौ॑ भुनक्तु । सह वी॒र्यं॑ करवावहै । तेज॒स्विना॒वधी॑तमस्तु मा विद्विषा॒वहै ॥ (3)

ॐ शान्तिः॒ शान्तिः॒ शान्तिः॑ ॥ (3)



Ashtavinayak Temples of Maharashtra - Part - VII

Shri Vighneshwara temple

Ozar

Compiled by
Dr. M. Thirumaleshwar
Email: tmuliya@rediffmail.com



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Vighneshwara Temple, Ozar



The Vigneshwara Temple or Vighnahr Ganapati Temple[1] of Ozar (also spelt as Ojhar or Ojzar) is a Hindu temple dedicated to Ganesha, the elephant-headed god of wisdom. The temple is one of the Ashtavinayaka, the eight revered shrines of Ganesha in Maharashtra, India. The Ganesha form worshipped here is called Vigneshwara (spelt also as Vigneshvar(a), Vigneshwar : "Lord of obstacles") or Vignahar (spelt also as Vignahara, "Remover of obstacles") and is associated with the legend of Ganesha defeating Vignasura, the demon of obstacles.

Location

Ozar is located about 85 km from Pune,[2] off the Pune-Nashik highway and about 9 km north to Narayangaon.[3] Along another Ashtavinayak temple of Lenyadri, Ozar is in the Junnar taluka of Pune district.[4] Ozar is situated on the banks of Kukadi River close to the Yedagaon dam built on it.[2]

History

Chimaji Appa, younger brother and military commander of the Peshwa Baji Rao I, renovated the temple and covered the shikhara (temple spire) with gold after seizing the Vasai Fort

from the Portuguese.[5] The temple was also renovated in 1967 by the Ganesha devotee Appa Shastri Joshi.[6]

Religious significance

Though Ozar is prescribed to the seventh temple to be visited in the Ashtavinayak circuit, pilgrims often visit Ozar fifth, as it is a more convenient route.[4]

The Mudgala Purana, Skanda Purana and the Tamil Vinayaka Purana record: King Abhinandana performed a sacrifice in which he did not give any offering to the god-king Indra. The infuriated Indra ordered Kala (Time/Death) to destroy the sacrifice. Kala takes the form of the demon Vignasura (obstacle-demon) or Vigna (obstacle), who created obstacles in the sacrifice and ruined it. Further, he created havoc in the universe, creating obstacles in the good deeds and sacrifices of sages and other beings. The sages asked god Brahma or Shiva for help, who advised the worship of Ganesha. Hearing the prayer of the ascetics, Ganesha began to battle the demon, who soon realized that it was impossible to win and surrendered to his opponent and agreed not to harass the beings of the world. It was arranged that Vigna (obstacles) would dwell only in places where Ganesha was not invoked or worshipped. In some versions, the remorseful Vigna was made an attendant of Ganesha, who would trouble those who fail to worship his Lord. Vignasura also requested Ganesha to take the name Vigneshwara (The Lord of Vigna/obstacles) to commemorate the event. The relieved sages consecrated an image of Ganesha as Vigneshwara at Ozar to mark the event.[7][8][9]

Architecture

The east-facing temple features a "spacious courtyard, a grand entrance, sculptural and mural work".[7] It is surrounded by a walled compound with a large gateway flanked by two large stone Dvarapala (gatekeepers) sculptures and a row of four musicians in bas relief on the lintel. One can view the Lenyadri shrine and Shivneri Fort standing on the wall. Two large stone Deepamalas (lamp towers) stand near the gateway in front of a fine corridor of seven cusped arches. There are owaris (small room for meditation) on both sides of the gateway. The courtyard is tiled. The central temple has three entrances with sculptured side posts and lintels; the east one being the central one. The central one has a lintel with a Ganesha in relief surrounded with monkeys and parrots on trees. The temple has two halls, with first one (20 feet high) having the entrances to the north and south too and has the imagee of Dhundiraj Ganesha. The next one (10 feet high) has a white marble mushika (the mouse, which is the vehicle of Ganesha) seating in attendance. The temple walls is filled with murals and colourful sculptures.[3][6][10] The shikhara - over the sanctum - is covered with gold foil.[2] It also has two wide stone Prakarams (outer path outside a Hindu sanctum).[3]

Like all Ashtavinayak shrines, the central Ganesha image is believed to be svayambhu (self-existent), naturally occurring in the form of an elephant-faced stone.[11] The central icon of Ganesha faces east and is flanked with brass images of his consorts Siddhi and Riddhi. He has a left-turning trunk and is covered with sindoor (vermillion). His eyes are emeralds and his forehead and navel is also adored with diamonds.[6][7]

Festivals

The temple celebrates the usual festivals associated with Ganesha: Ganesh Chaturthi and Ganesh Jayanti. In addition, a five-day festival starting on Kartik Poornima is also celebrated when the Deepamalas are lit.[6]

Ref: ashtavinayaktemples.com



Introduction

"Bhaktanugrahe Gajmukho Vigeshwaro Brahamapam
Nana Murti Dharopi Naijamahima Khanda Sadatma Prabhu
Sweccha Vighnahar Sadasukhkar Sidha Kallo Swayepum
Kshetre Chozarke Namostu Satatam Tamse Parabrahamne"

Meaning : Let my mind be concentrated to the God , who is elephant headed , benignant & remover of obstacle. He has defeated demon Vighnasur . He himself is Brahma.His greatness is undisturbed in his different forms.He is the greatest artist, He gives happiness to his devotees,who stays at Ozar .

Ashtavinayaka or eight Ganeshas is located in Maharashtra state of India, The Ashtavinayaka yatra or pilgrimage covers the eight holy temples of Ganesha which are situated around Pune.

Location of Vighneshwar Temple

On the Pune- Nasik Road on passing through Chakan, Rajgurunagar, Manchar, one comes to the towns Narayangaon and later to Junnar. Ozhar is 8km from both Naryangaon and Junnar. One can take either auto rickshaws or jeeps from here to reach Ozhar Bus service is not available in this route.

Pune and Talegaon are the two closest Railway Stations.

From the Shivaji Nagar Bus Depot in Pune and from the Bus Depot at Talegaon one can get State Transport buses to Junnar.

State Transport buses also ply between Mumbai and Junnar.

Private buses and vehicles reach directly up to the temple because of the bridge on the Kukadi River.

The distance from Mumbai-Thane, Kalyan-Bapsai-Sarlgaon-Otur-Lenyadri-Ozar is 182kms.

Legend of Vighneshwar Ashtavinayak

A king called Abhinandan one day decided to become the King of Heaven. To achieve this goal he started a Yagya, a sacrifice. When Indra the King of Heaven heard this he decided to create obstacles in the king's path. He summoned Kalapurush and asked him to destroy King Abhinandan's Yagya. After doing so Kalapurush acquired the name Vighnasura, the creator of obstacles.

Vighnasura then went on a rampage and destroyed all Vedic practices on earth. The gods realised that they had to destroy this destructive force and they turned to Gajanan for help, who in those days was at the ashram of Sage Parashar.

Gajanan took birth as the son of Parshwaputra and his wife Deepvatsala. This son then fought valiantly with Vighnasura, who had to except defeat. He abdicated himself to the Lord and asked to be blessed. Ganesh said that he would be let him go, but made him promise that he would never enter any place where Lord Ganesh was being worshipped. Vighnasura accepted this on condition that Lord Ganesh be known by his name.

So Lord Ganesh came to be known as Vighneshwar or Vighnaharta.

Ozhar it is believed is where Lord Ganesh resided as Vigneshwar.

Shri Vighneshwar Vinayak Ashtavinayak Ganpati Temple Ozhar

Shri Vighneshwar Vinayak Ashtavinayak Ganpati Temple Ozhar one of the eight major temples of Lord Ganesha which constitutes the divine Ashtavinayak temples in Maharashtra. Vighneshwar Vinayak temple is located just off the Pune-Nashik Highway, in the town of Ozhar. It is enclosed on all sides by high stone walls, and its pinnacle is made of gold.

The temple is situated on the banks of river Kukadi.

Via Mumbai-Thane-Kalyan-Bapsai-Saralgaon-Otur, Ozhar is 182Km.

History:

Shri Vighneshwar Vinayak,- The history encompassing this idol states that Vighnasur, a demon was created by the King of Gods, Indra to destroy the prayer organized by King Abhinandan. However, the demon went a step further and destroyed all vedic, religious acts and to answer the people's prayers for protection, Ganesh defeated him. The story goes on to say that on being conquered, the demon begged and pleaded with Ganesha to show

mercy. Ganesha then granted in his plea, but on the condition that demon should not go to the place where Ganesha worshipping is going on. In return the demon asked a favour that his name should be taken before Ganesha's name, thus the name of Ganesha became Vighnagar or Vighneshwar (Vighna in Sanskrit means a sudden interruption in the ongoing work due to some unforeseen, unwarranted event or cause). The Ganesha here is called Shri Vighneshwar Vinayak.

Vighneshwar Vinayak temple faces east and is surrounded by a thick stone wall. One can walk on the wall. The main hall of the temple is 20 feet long and the inner hall is 10feet long. This idol, facing the east, has its trunk towards the left and rubies in its eyes. There is a diamond on the forehead and some jewel in the navel. Idols of Riddhi and Siddhi are placed on the two sides of the Ganesha idol. The temple top is Golden and is possibly built by Chimaji Appa after defeating the Portuguese rulers of Vasai and Sashti. The temple was probably built around 1785.

Festivals Celebrated in Temple

The Bhadrapad and Magh Chaturthi [fourth day] are times when big celebrations are held in the temple.

From the Tripuri Purnima that is from the Full Moon day of the month of Kartik a four day festival is celebrated. The entire temple is lit at this time.

Ref: myoksha.com

Ozar Ganpati Temple Guide –

Vigneshwara Ashtavinayak – Timings, Poojas, and Significance.

Ozar Ganpati is a Ganesha Vinayak temple. The idol form worshipped here is called Vigneshwara. It is associated with the legend of Ganesha defeating Vignasura, the demon of obstacles. The temple is one of the Ashtavinayak Temples, the eight holy shrines of Ganesha in Maharashtra, India.



Ozar Ganpati Temple Timings

The temple remains open daily between 05:00 am to 11:00 pm. There is no afternoon break in darshan. During Angarki Chaturthi, temple starts early at 04:00 am. Aarti timings are at 07:30 am and 10:00 pm. Prasad is served at 01:00 pm.

Here are the timings for Ozar Ganpati temple in a tabular format:

Temple Timings	5:00 AM to 11:00 PM
Darshan Timing on Angarkhi Chaturthi	4:00 AM to 11:00 PM
Maha Aarti Timing	7:30 AM
Maha Prasad Timing	Mornings – 10:00 AM Afternoons – 1:00 PM
Madhya Aarti Timing	12:00 PM
Shejaarti Timing	10:00 PM

What are the poojas and rituals in Ozar Ganpati Temple?

Some of the major poojas that take place in the temple are Ganesh Chaturthi, Ganesh Jayanti (for five days) and Karthik Purnima. Regular Maha Aartis, Madhya Aartis, and Shejaartis are performed.

The daily poojas and rituals include,

5:00 AM	Waking up of God
5:30 AM	Prakshalana Pooja
7:00 AM	Panchopachara Pooja, Naivedya, Dhooparti
12:00 PM	Maha Pooja, Mahanaivedya
3:00 PM	Prakshalana Pooja, Poshakh
8:00 PM	Dhoopaarti, Aarti of the Avarana Deities
8:30 PM	Maha Aarti, Dhoop, Deep, Mantra Pushpa
10:00 PM	Shej Aarti

Abhyanga Snana – Every Saturday after the aarti at night there is a ritual of Abhyanga Snana, which is a very important ritual for several devotees. Abhyanga Snana is the bathing ritual to worship the presiding deity Lord Ganesha and is attended by several pilgrims every week.

What is the significance of Ozar Ganpati Temple?

The significance of Ozar Ganpati temple is that it is the most famous Vigneshwara Asthavinayak temples. The residing idol is Ganesha, the elephant-headed Hindu God and is left trunked in the temple. An east-facing idol of Ganesha is seen along with his consorts Siddhi and Riddhi, with the scriptural and mural work in the entrance.



Riddhi and Siddhi are the consorts of Lord Ganesha, who stand on the two sides of the idol of Ganesha in Ozar

The temple also has its own courtyard, which becomes the ground for all the festivities. The idols of Goddess Siddhi and Goddess Riddhi, along with Ganesha, is adorned with diamonds on their foreheads and emeralds for their eyes. The peaceful environment along with the spiritual feelings highlights the sacred purity of the temple.

What is the history of Ozar Ganapati Temple?

The history of Ozar Ganapati temple dates back to many centuries. Mythology states that King Abhinandan had not given an offering to Lord Indra during his Maha Yagna. Angered, Indra sent Kaala in the form of Vignasura. He was defeated by Ganesha and agreed to never be present in places that were blessed by him.

The Vigneshawara temple was built by Chimaji Appa in 1785, after the conquest of Vasai fort from the Portuguese. He also covered the dome in gold and transformed it in 1833. In 1967 it was again reconstructed by a devotee, Appa Shastri Joshi. They say that no "Vighna" ever arises in places where Ganesha is invoked.



When Lord Ganesha defeated Vignasura, he was renamed Vigneshwara Vinayaka

What are festivals in Ozar Ganpati Temple?

The major festivals celebrated at Ozar Ganpati temple are:

- Ganesh Jayanti – It is one of the most important festivals that take place during the month of January or February. It is also known as Maha Shukla Chaturthi and celebrates the birth anniversary of Ganesha, the God of wisdom. Ozar Ganpati temple engages in widespread celebrations for the same.
- Ganesh Chaturthi – It is another major festival that attracts several pilgrims to Ozar Ganpati temple every year. It takes place in the month of August or September. It is often celebrated for a period of five days and marks the beginning of a series of Hindu celebrations.
- Karthik Poornimah – One of the most popular festivals celebrated here is the Karthik Poornimah festival. It takes place during November or December and is a much-awaited celebration. The festival is celebrated in the fifth lunar day of Kartik month. It is often called Deva-Deepawali, as it is the festival of lights for the Divine deities.



Ganesh Jayanti festival is celebrated on the birth anniversary of Lord Ganesha

How to reach Ozar Ganapati Temple?

Ozar Ganapati Temple has located 85 km from Pune and falls along the Pune-Nashik highway and can be reached very conveniently by the road itself, as preferred by the most pilgrim.

Air – Pune Airport is 67 km from Ozar Ganapati temple.

Rail – Nearest Railway station is at Pune which is 85 km from Ozar Ganapati temple.

Bus or Road – Junnar, located at 8 km from Ozar which has a bus station and can be reached via rickshaw, jeep or car. Shivajinagar bus stand also has regular bus services according to the need of the pilgrims.

What are some temples near Ozar Ganapati Temple?

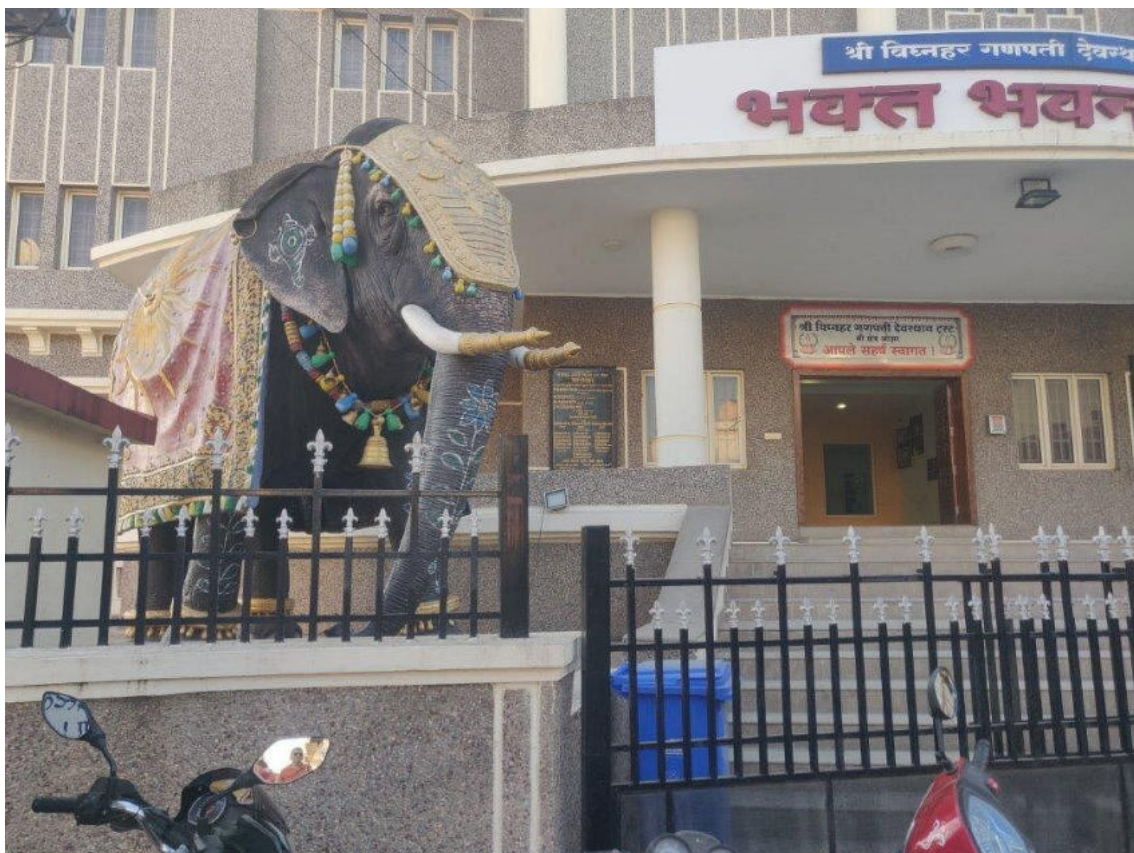
- Mohota Devi Temple – Situated in Koregaon in Maharashtra, this temple is 162 kilometers away from Ozar Ganapati temple. It is a shrine to Shri Kulswamini Jagdamba Mohotadevi. Navaratri is a major festival of the temple.
- Bhimashankar Jyotirlinga Mandir – Dedicated to Lord Shiva, this temple is also 220 kilometers away from Ozar Ganapati temple. It is located on the banks of the river Bhimashankar and is a very popular place for pilgrimage.



Bhimashankar Jyotirlinga temple situated at a distance of 220 km from Ozar Ganapati temple

Ref: tripadvisor.in : Photos



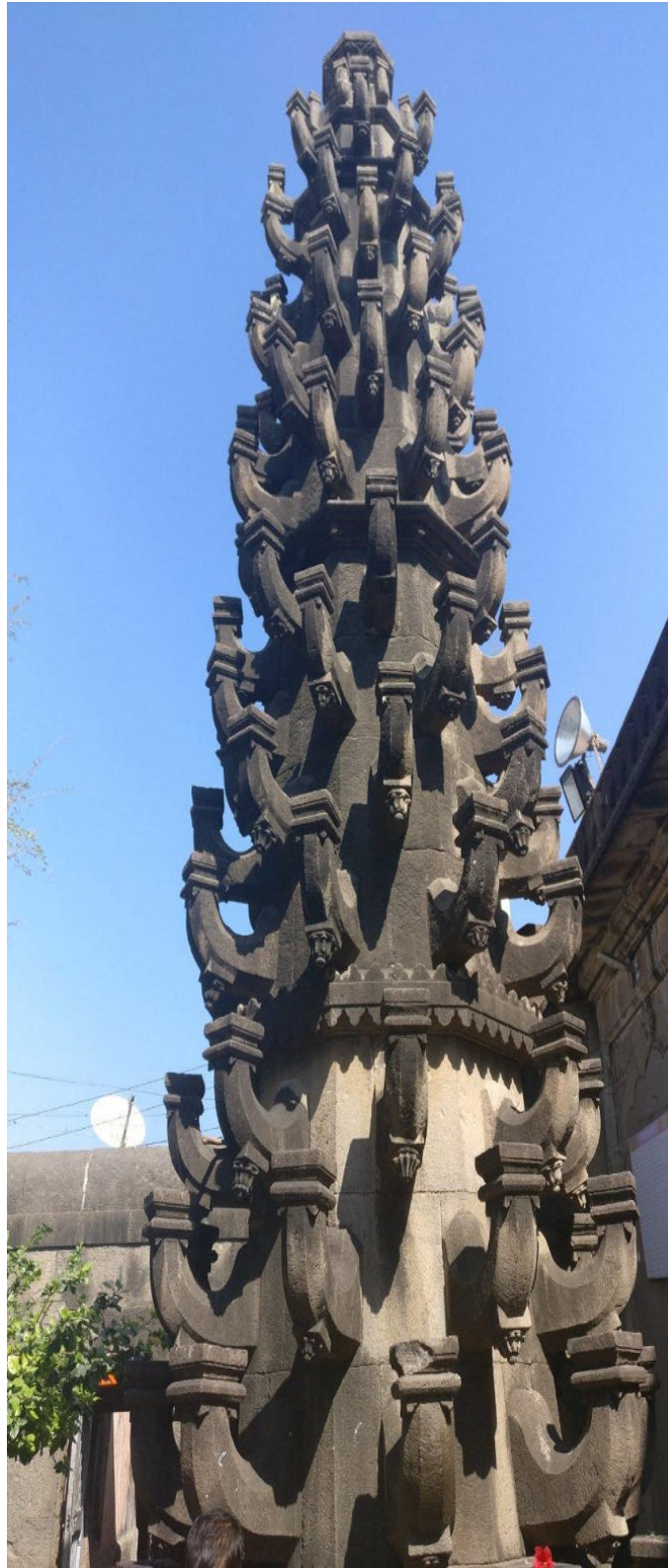


















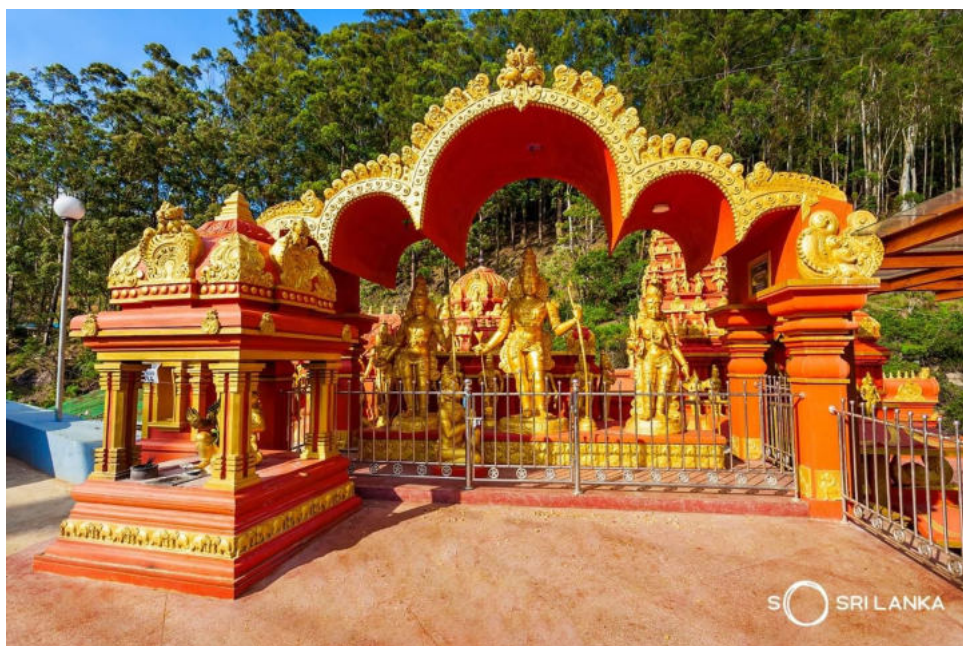
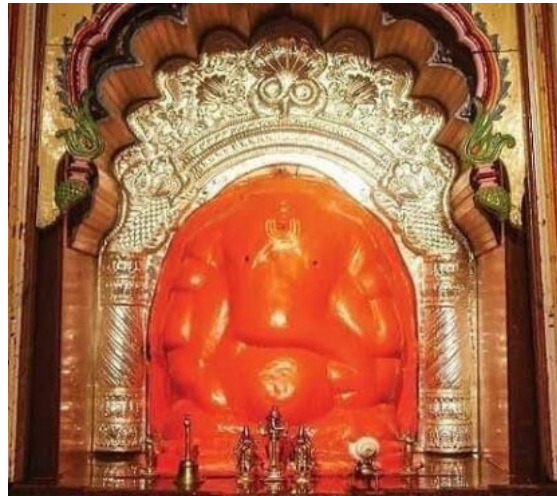






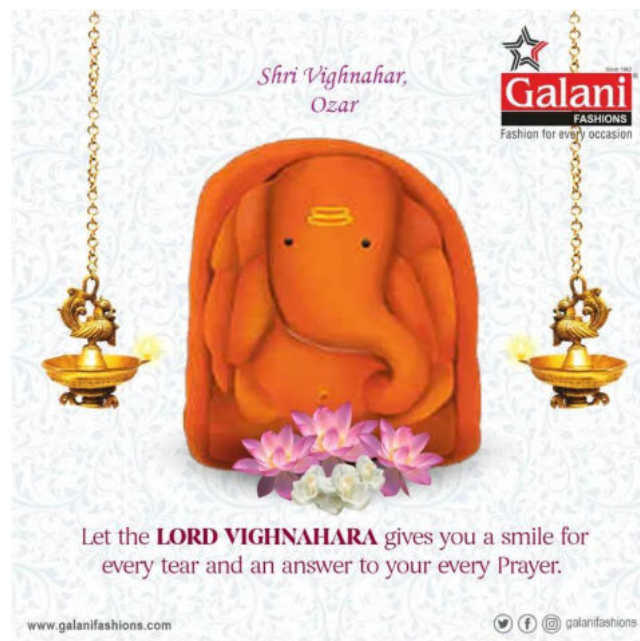


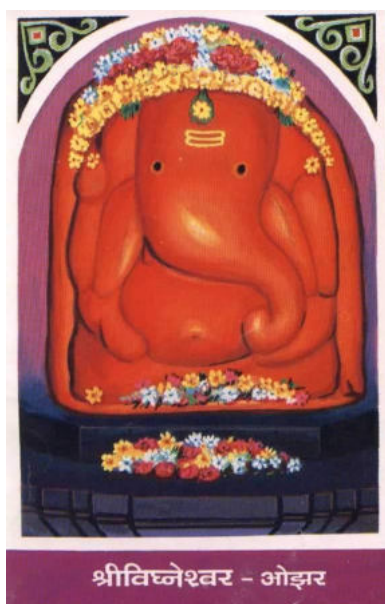
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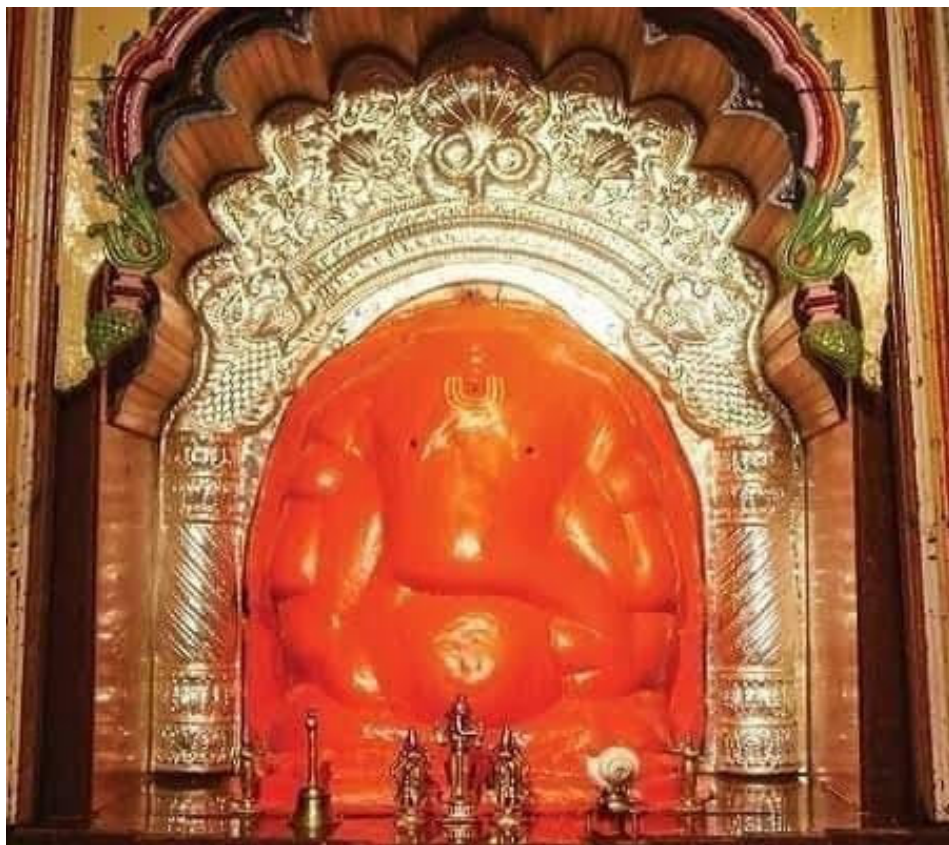






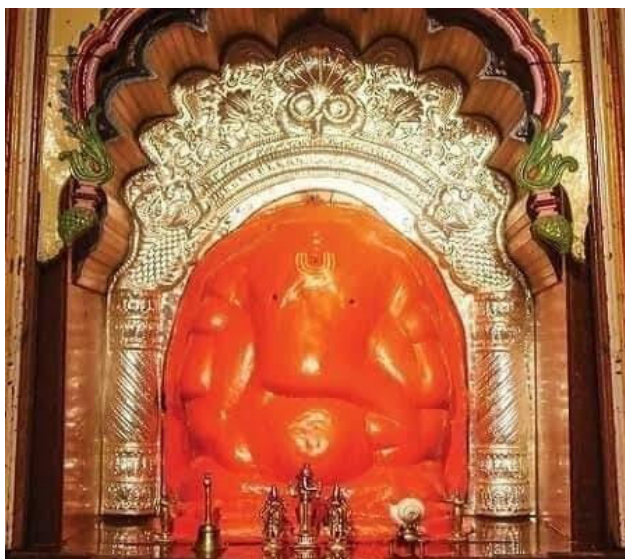














Ozar - Religious Importance

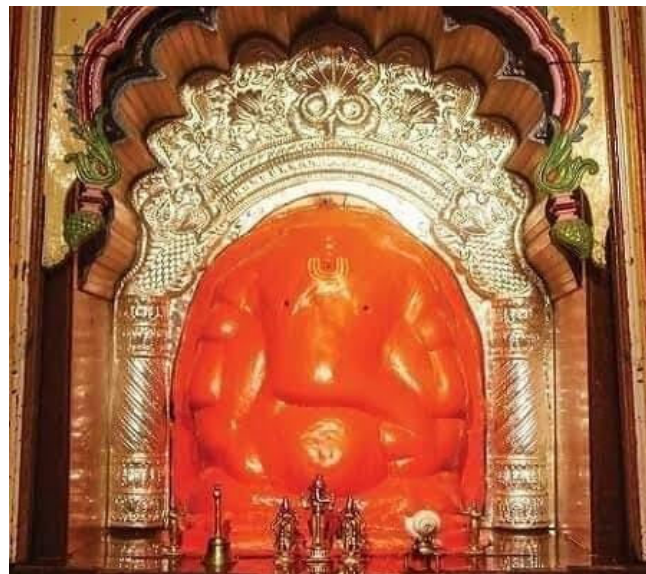
On the banks of the Kukdeswar river, Ozhar Ashtavinayak is where Lord Vighneshwar resides. Lord Ganesha is known as Vighneshwara or the remover of all obstacles, this he achieved by vanquishing the demon Vighnasura. Vighneshwara's temple is situated on the banks of river Kukadi. Among Ashtavinayak Kshetra Vighneshwara Temple is the only temple with golden dome and pinnacle.

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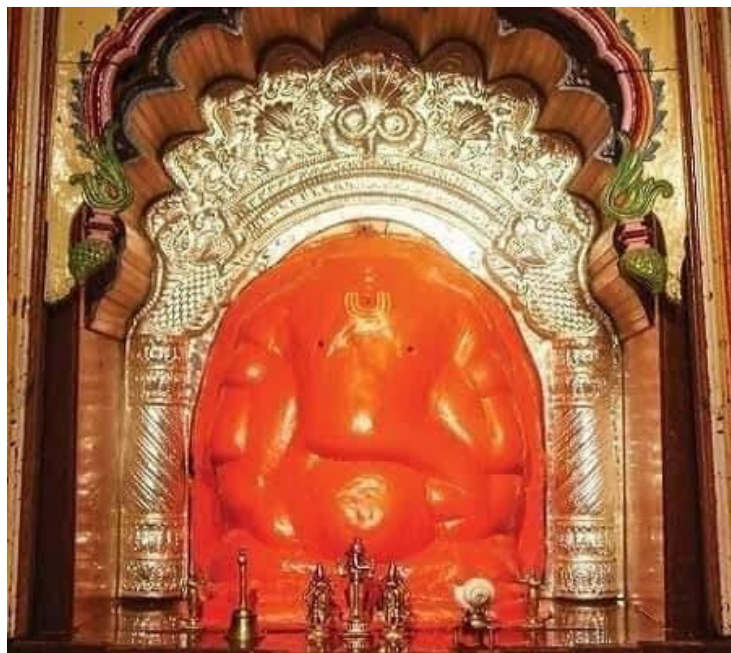
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YouTube videos:

Vighneshwar temple, Ozar: <https://youtu.be/-kzpbbpZQQIQ>

Vighneshwar Ozar history: https://youtu.be/BkyJkb_B4ew

Vighneshwar temple: yatra: <https://youtu.be/po0ImS8Er1Y>

Vighneshwar temple, Ozar: true story: <https://youtu.be/BmayoJ-rgK8>

Vighneshwar temple, Ozar : Aarti:
<https://www.facebook.com/ashtavinayak/videos/1592632654126118/>

Vighneshwar Ozar darshan: https://youtu.be/yBvudbs2_1w

Ashtavinayak Ozar temple: https://youtu.be/IBV_NnuniBM

Vighneshwar Ganapati, Ozar: <https://youtu.be/fH6EALjQLuE>

Mahaganapathi, Vighneshwara: <https://youtu.be/4vTiEjgu8hY>

Ashtavinayak Ozar Vighneshwar: <https://youtu.be/esSdWTke3NA>

Vighneshwar Ganapati: <https://youtu.be/AdPWJKFA3xY>

Shri Vighnagar Ganapati darshan: https://youtu.be/ZCupkld3_-A

Vighneshwar Ganapati Ozar: https://youtu.be/G_hq-JLlyM0

Ganapati stotras: <https://youtu.be/U5JYPOTSiL0>

Ganapati stotram: <https://youtu.be/d-D8iV5LvBI>

Ganapati stotram: <https://youtu.be/witRW0Bh6e4>

Runaharan Ganapati stotram: <https://youtu.be/VLFe68n0Uxo>

Ganapati Atharvashirsha: <https://youtu.be/6rdILZ5-CT4>

Sankatnashan Ganesha stotram: <https://youtu.be/N6scSqLkTE8>

Ganesha Hridaya: <https://youtu.be/HGd3sRZyiuU>

Ashtavinayak Aarti: <https://youtu.be/OFX5695JBIU>

Morning Aarti: <https://youtu.be/-k16cdT5ZW5>

Ganesha devotional: <https://youtu.be/yXvYliki4Lg>

Ganapati Devotional songs: https://youtu.be/cFMaKG_Cfns

Ganapati Devotional Songs: <https://youtu.be/7kCyvQGvJD4>



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Ashtavinayak Temples of Maharashtra - Part - VIII

Shri Mahaganapathi temple

Ranjangaon

Compiled by
Dr. M. Thirumaleshwar
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Ref: ashtavinayaktemples.com

Introduction

Shree Shambhuvarprada Sutapasa Namna Sahastra Swakam
 Datwa Shree Vijay Padam Shivkar Tasme Prasanna Prabhu
 Ten Sthapit Eva Sadgunavapu Ganapati Kshetre Sadatishtati
 Tam Vande Manipurke Ganapati Devam Mahant Mudra

Meaning : Lord Shivshankar obtained a boon by propitiating Lord Shree Ganesh . I salute Shri Ganesh who stays at Manipur(Ranjangaon), who gave boon to Lord Shiva, whose appearance is beautiful & pleasing & who is statue of good qualities.

Ashtavinayaka or eight Ganeshas is located in Maharashtra state of India, The Ashtavinayak yatra or pilgrimage covers the eight holy temples of Ganesha which are situated around Pune.

Shri Mahaganapati Ashtavinayak Ganpati Temple Ranjangaon

Shri Mahaganapati Ashtavinayak Ganpati Temple Ranjangaon is one of the eight major temples of Lord Ganesha which constitutes the divine Ashtavinayak temples in Maharashtra. Shri Mahaganapati Temple is located On Pune-Nagpur highway one can reach Ranjangaon by Pune-Koregaon- shikrapur-Ranjangaon. The distance between Pune & Ranjangaon is 50kms. The temple of Maha Ganpati is very close to the center of the town Ranjangaon. The temple was erected during the rule of the Peshwas.

Mahaganapati Temple Ranjangaon - Shiva is believed to have worshiped Ganesha before fighting the demon Tripurasura here. The temple was built by Shiva where he worshiped Ganesha, and the town he set up was called Manipur which is now known as Ranjangaon.

In Mahaganapati temple the idol faces the east, is seated in a cross-legged position with a broad forehead, with its trunk pointing to the left. Constructed so that the rays of the sun fall directly on the idol (during the Southward movement of the sun), the temple bears a distinct resemblance to the architecture reminiscent of the 9th and 10th Centuries and faces the east. Shrimant Madhavrao Peshwa used to visit this temple very often and built the stone sanctum around the idol and in 1790 AD Mr. Anyaba Dev was authorized to worship the idol.

Location of Mahaganapati Temple

On Pune-Nagpur highway one can reach Ranjangaon by Pune-Koregaon-shikrapur-Ranjangaon. The distance between Pune & Ranjangaon is 50kms.

One can reach by state transport buses from Shivaji Nagar Stand of Pune.

Festivals Celebrated in Temple

Residents of the Ranjangaon village do not bring idols of Ganpati at home during Ganesh Chaturthi. In fact on this festival everyone comes to the temple.

In the month of Bhadrapada a six day festival is celebrated from the Pratipada to the Sashti, that is from the first to the sixth of the waxing period of the month.

On the fifth day there is "Mahaprasad"(big offering to Lord Maha Ganapati)

A procession of the deity's Palkhi is conducted on these days. Other celebrations including wrestling matches are also held.

Legend of Mahaganapati Temple

Tripurasur was a the son of Sage Gritsamad. One day the sage sneezed and from this was created a young boy who the Sage brought up as his own son. The sage taught the boy the Ganana Twam, Ganesh Mantra. Equipped with this mantra the boy meditated intensely on Lord Ganesh who ultimately blessed him. He was given three pura-s of gold silver and iron. Since he was the owner of these three pura-s he was given the name Tripur. Ganesh also bestowed on Tripur to be the most powerful, who none but Lord Shiva himself could destroy and after being destroyed by Lord Shiva he would attain mukti-salvation.

This boon made Tripur proud and he brought havoc in the entire world. He conquered the Nether world and then proceeded to take over Heaven. He defeated Indra the king of heaven. His aggression made Lord Brahma hide in a lotus and Lord Vishnu in the Kshirsagar. He soon also took over Lord Shiva's Kailash Parvat and thus became the King of all the three worlds. The gods wondered how to vanquish Tripurasur. Lord Narada told them that, since he had been granted a boon by Lord Ganesh himself it would be very difficult to vanquish him. He advised them to meditate on Lord Ganesh. Pleased Lord Ganesh decided to help the Gods.

Disguised as brahmin he visited Tripurasur and told him that he was a very enlightened Brahmin and could make for him three flying planes. Riding these he would be able to go anywhere he wished within minutes. The planes could only be destroyed by Shiva. In return Lord Ganesh asked him to get him the statue of Chintamani which was at the Kailash Mountain. Lord Shiva refused to give the statue to Tripurasur's messenger. The angry Tripurasur himself went to get the statue. A fierce battle started between him and Lord Shiva. He destroyed everything that belonged to the Lord Shiva who too retired to the Girikandar.

Puja Schedule

The temple is open from 5:30 am to 10pm.

Devotees can offer the following pujas:

Abhishek Rs 11/-

Sahastravartan Rs 101/-

SatyaVinayak Puja Rs 51/-

The temple trust also arranges for the Prasad to be sent to devotees.

Travel

Distances and Routes from Pune to Ashtavinayak:

From-To	Distance	Route via
Pune-Theur	25 km	Pune-Hadapsar-Loni-Theur
Theur-Moregaon	70 km.	Loni-Yavat-Supa-Moregaon
Moregaon-Siddhatek	65 km	Supa-Choufula-Patas-Daund-Siddhatek
Siddhatek-Rajangaon	92 km	Daund-Kashti-Belvandi-Shirur-Rajangaon
Rajangaon-Ozar	100 km	Shikrapur-Chakan-Rajgurunagar-Narayangaon-Ozar
Ozar-Lenyandri	15 km	Ottur-Lenyandri
Lenyandri-Mahad	134 km	Junnar-Narayangaon-Manchar-Rajgurunagar-Chakan-Wadgaon-Lonvala-Khopoli-Mahad
Mahad-Pali	42 km	Khopoli-Pali
Pali-Pune	111 km	Khopoli-Lonavla-Wadgaon-Pune

Ref: myoksha.com

Ranjangaon Ganpati Temple Ashtavinayak Guide – Timings, Poojas, and Significance



Ranjangaon Ganpati Temple is dedicated to Lord Ganesh and is one of the eight Ashtavinayak Temples. It is in Ranjangaon, Shirur Taluka. According to beliefs, Lord Shiva worshipped Lord Ganesh here before proceeding to defeat the demon Tripurasura. Lord Ganesh is Mahaganapati since he is powerful and has several arms.

Ranjangaon Ganpati Temple – Timings

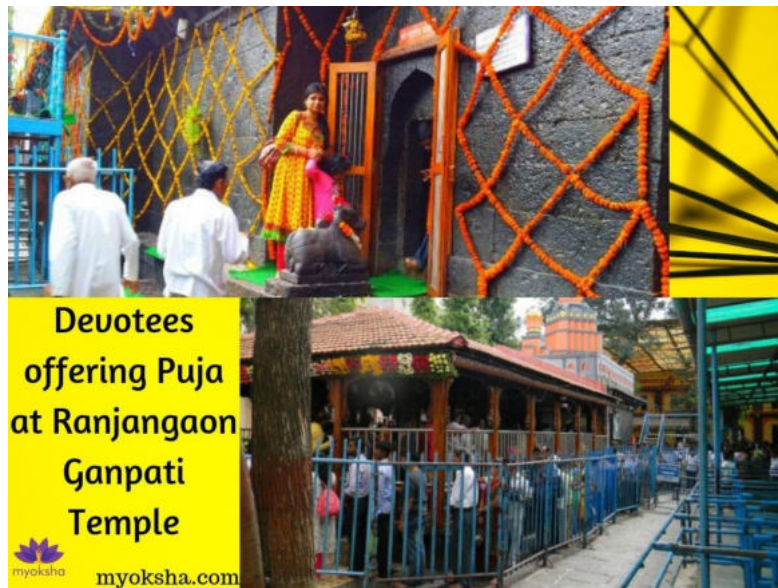
The timings of Chintamani Ganapati Temple are:

Timings	From	To
Morning Darshan	5:00 AM	10:00 PM
Abhishek Puja Timings	5:30 AM	
Samudaik Aarti Timings	7:30 AM	
Mahapuja, Mahanaivadya Timings	11:30 AM	12:30 PM
Samudaik Evening Aarti Timings	7:30 PM	
Shej Aarti Timings	10:30 PM	

Poojas and Sevas conducted at Ranjangaon Ganpati Temple –

Here's a list of the poojas and rituals performed at Ranajangaon Ganpati Temple:

Pooja	Cost
Abhishek	Rs 11/-
Sahastravartan	Rs 101/-
SatyaVinayak Puja	Rs 51/-



Devotees standing to offer prayers to Lord Ganesh at Ranjangaon Ganpati Temple.

What is the significance of Ranjangaon Ganpati Temple?



The divine idol of Lord Ganpati in the inner sanctum of Ranjangaon Ganpati Temple.

The significance of Ranjangaon Ganpati Temple is that it has been constructed in a way that the Sun's rays fall on the idol during the southern movement of the sun. Lord Mahaganapati sits on a lotus. His consorts Riddhi-Siddhi accompany him. The Mahaganapati idol at Ranjangaon Ganpati Temple is a Swayambhu.

Lord Mahaganapati is very powerful. The villagers of Ranjangaon do not bring the Ganesha idols into their homes during Ganesh Chaturthi. Instead, they visit the temple and offer their prayers.

Devotees believe that there is another idol below the present idol. The idol supposedly has 10 trunks and 20 arms. However, no one knows if this idol still exists. This idol is supposed to be called Mahotkat.

- The villages and areas surrounding the temple is known as Manipur (do not confuse it with the North-east state of Manipur).
- Lord Shiva prayed to Lord Ganesh at this place before defeating the demon Tripurasur.

Structure of Ranjangaon Ganpati Temple



The unique design and Hindu Style of Architecture can be observed in the Ranjangaon Ganpati Temple.

An east-bound temple, it is effectively recognized as a result of its colossal passageway, which has statues of the door-keepers Jay and Vijay. A novel part of the temple is that it is planned in a such a way, that during 'Dakshinayan' and 'Uttarayan,' the sunbeams fall legitimately on the divinity.

Similarly wonderful is the sanctum, which was developed by Thorale Madhavrao Peshwa. Symbol of Lord Ganesha has an outstandingly wide brow, ten trunks, twenty arms, further flanked by the statues of Riddhi and Siddhi.

What is the history of Ranjangaon Ganpati Temple?

As per the history, the temple was built in the middle of the ninth and tenth century. The temple is developed to the point that sunbeams fall straightforwardly on Shree Ganesha's idol. Since this temple was on his way to war, Shreemant Madhavrao Peshwa used to stop here to have Mahaganapati's darshan.

Madhavrao Peshwa made a room in the stone cellar in the temple to keep the icon of Lord Ganesh. He additionally built a stone sanctum around this Swayambhu or self-radiated idol.

In 1790 A.D he gave an inherited right to perform pooja of Mahaganapati to Shri Anyaba Dev.

The temple hall was built by Sardar Kibe and Owaris which are small apartments enclosing the wall of temple were built by Sardar Pawar and Shinde. Renowned hermit Morya Gosavi had presented an icon made of five metals to Shri Anyaba Dev. This symbol is taken out in parade on festive days.

Nagarkhana is located over the passageway entrance gate. This Nagarkhana was inaugurated by Maharashtra's respectable Chief Minister Shri Manohar Joshi on third May 1997. The temple confronting east has an immense and delightful passageway gate. Icons of two doorkeepers specifically Jay & Vijay are available close to the door.

Legends related to Ranjangaon Ganpati Temple

Legend of Mahaganapati: Sage Gritsamad's son Tripurasur was a brilliant young boy and a devotee of Lord Ganesh. Pleased by his devotion and prayers, Lord Ganesh blessed the boy and gave him three pura's of precious metals. Only Lord Shiva could destroy them. However, over a period of time, Tripurasur became vain and created chaos in the world.

He even disturbed Lord Brahma and Vishnu by his atrocities and they went into hiding. Sage Narada then advised the frightened gods that they should take the help of Lord Ganesh. The Gods decided to invoke Lord Ganesh, who appeared and accepted to help them.

Lord Ganesh disguised as a Brahmin and met Tripurasur under the pretext of creating three flying planes. In return, he ordered Tripurasur to bring the Chintamani idol from Mount Kailash. Then, the greedy Tripurasur went to Mount Kailash and fought with Lord Shiva for the idol.

Lord Shiva realized that he had not offered his prayers to Lord Ganesh first, and hence was unable to destroy the pura's or defeat him. Therefore, he recited the Sadaakshar Mantra and invoked Lord Ganesh, who emerged and gave him the instructions for defeating Tripurasur.

Then, Lord Shiva followed the directions, defeated the greedy Tripurasur and also created a temple for Lord Ganesh at that spot.

What are the festivals celebrated at Ranjangaon Ganpati Temple?

Some festivals celebrated at Chintamani Ganapati Temple are:

- Bhadrapad: There is a special 6 day festival in the month of Bhadrapad, during which Mahabhog is offered to the temple deity on the fifth day. During this festival, the temple deity is also taken around the area in a flower-bedecked palanquin.
- Ganesh Jayanti: Another festival that draws visitors from all across India is Ganesh Jayanti. It is another popular occasion that celebrates the birthday of Ganesha on the fourth day of the Hindu month of Magha.

- **Magh:** The Magh Utsav is an important festival at the Ranjangaon Temple. Here, the celebrations are held from Magh Shudh 1 to Magh Shudh 6 (January – February). During this period, devotees conduct Bhajans, Kirtans and several programs.
- **Holi:** The colorful festival of Holi is in the month of Phalgun (February/March), on Phalgun Shudh Poornima.
- **Shravan:** Janmashtami or Krishna Ashtami, Lord Krishna's birthday is celebrated here with a Dahi Handi event during Shravan (July- August)



Different Festivals including Ganesh Chaturthi is celebrated with much pomp and glory in Ranjangaon Ganpati Temple.

How to reach Ranjangaon Ganpati Temple?

Here's how to reach Ranjangaon Ganpati Temple:

By road: Ranjangaon is nearly 50 km from Pune. There are frequent state transport service buses available from Pune Shivaji Nagar bus stand also hire taxi or cab from any area of the city to reach Ranjangaon Ganpati Temple

By rail: The nearest railway station to Ashtavinayak Ranjangaon Ganpati Temple is Uruli railway station that lies just 16 Km away from Ranjangaon.

By air: Baramati Airport is 21 kilometers and Pune Airport is 50 kilometers away from Shree Mahaganapati Temple in Ranjangaon. There are numerous numbers of taxis and buses that will take you to Ranjangaon from outside the airport.

What are some temples near Ranjangaon Ganpati Temple?

Shivneri Fort and Temple: Shivneri Fort is the birthplace of Chatrapathi Shivaji. The fort is visible from the Vighneshwar Vinayak Temple and also houses a small temple for Goddess Shivani. Devotees traveling to Ozar and Lenyadri Ashtavinayak temples also stop at this Fort as it is a place of interest.

Ref: artofliving.org

Eighth Ganapati - Shri Mahaganapati of Ranjangaon

Shri Kshetra Mahaganapati Mandir, Ranjangaon

This temple is located on Pune-Ahmednagar road, 2 hours from Ojhar. The eighth temple of Ashtavinayak Yatra belongs to Mahaganapati and is considered to be the most powerful. It is said that before the war with Tripurasura, Lord Shiva worshiped Lord Ganesha here.

The story of Shri Kshetra Mahaganapati Legend

According to legend, Tripurasura, the son of sage Gritsamad, was an intelligent child and a devoted devotee of Lord Ganesha. Pleased with his devotion, he gave him a metal as precious as Tripura. Only Shankara could destroy it. Tripurasura, overwhelmed with ego, began to harass the gods. Brahma and Vishnu, fed up with his troubles, hid. Then Narada advised the frightened gods to seek the help of Ganapati. Ganapati agreed to help the gods.

Ganapati disguised as a Brahmin and persuaded Tripurasura to make three flying planes and asked him to bring an idol of Chintamani from Mount Kailash. Blinded by greed, Tripurasura attacked Kailasa. Shankar could not defeat him. Shankara realized that he did not worship Ganesha. When Shankara invoked Ganapati by chanting Shadakshara mantra, Ganapati appeared there and instructed Shankara to defeat Tripurasura. Following those instructions, Shankara killed the greedy Tripurasura and built a temple of Mahaganapati at that place.

Shri Mahaganapati Temple and Premises

This east-facing temple is built in such a way that the sun's rays fall directly on the idol in Dakshinayan. This Ganapati is sitting on a lotus and Riddhi-siddhi is with him. This Ganapati is self-existent. Devotees believe that there is another idol below this idol and it is said that this idol has 10 trunks and 20 arms. This idol is called 'Mahotkat'. But no one knows for sure whether that idol exists.

This Mahaganapati is very powerful and the villagers of Ranjangaon do not set up idols of Ganapati in their homes during Ganesha festival. So they come to this temple and worship and pray.

This self-portrait is facing east. Ganapati is sitting on a lotus with his thighs bent. His forehead is very wide and his proboscis is on the left.

Worship and celebration

The temple is open from 5.30 am to 10 pm. In the month of Bhadrapad, the villagers of Ranjangaon do not establish Ganapati in their house. Instead, they all participate in the worship of this temple.

A special festival of six days is celebrated in the month of Bhadrapad. In this, Mahanaivedya is shown to Ganapati on the fifth day. On this day, a procession of Lord Ganesha is taken out in a palanquin decorated with flowers.

Wrestling matches are held on these days. It was a huge crowd. On the sixth day, devotees go to Lotangana to pay obeisance to Mahaganapati.

Other sights nearby

- Samadhi of Sambhaji Maharaj at Vadu Budruk. Approximate distance 27 km
- At Nighoj, in the character of the river Kukdi, you can see natural pits in the shape of Ranjana. Approximate distance 27 km

Ref: ranjangaonmahaganapati.org

ABOUT THE TRUST

The Shree Mahaganapati temple at Ranjangaon is located in Shirur taluka about 50kms from Pune and is the eight temple visited by devotees who set out on the Ashtavinayak Yatra. The form of the temple's idol, namely Mahaganapati, is considered to be so powerful that the local villagers do not bring home idols of Ganapati at all, as is done during the Ganesh Chaturthi festival in other parts of Maharashtra. Instead, they personally visit the temple itself.

Contact us-

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Tel-02138-243200/01 MO.9209202222

Mail Id:- contact_mahaganpatiranjangaon@rediffmail.com

Historical background

Tripurasur was the son of Sage Gritsamad. One day the sage sneezed and from this was created a young boy who the Sage brought up as his own son. The sage taught the boy the Gananam Twam, Ganesh Mantra. Equipped with this mantra the boy meditated intensely on Lord Ganesh who ultimately blessed him. He was given three pura-s of gold silver and iron. Since he was the owner of these three pura's he was given the name Tripur. Ganesh also bestowed on Tripur to be the most powerful, who none but Lord Shiva himself could destroy and after being destroyed by Lord Shiva he would attain mukti-salvation. This boon made Tripur proud and he brought havoc in the entire world. He conquered the Nether world and then proceeded to takeover Heaven. He defeated Indra the king of heaven. His aggression made Lord Brahma hide in a lotus and Lord Vishnu in the Shirsagar. He soon also took over Lord Shiva's Kailash Parvat and thus became the King of all the three worlds. The gods

wondered how to vanquish Tripurasur. Lord Narada told them that, since he had been granted a boon by Lord Ganesh himself it would be very difficult to vanquish him. He advised them to meditate on Lord Ganesh. Pleased Lord Ganesh decided to help the Gods. Disguised as brahmin he visited Tripurasur and told him that he was a very enlightened Brahmin and could make for him three flying planes. Riding these he would be able to go anywhere he wished within minutes. The planes could only be destroyed by Shiva. In return Lord Ganesh asked him to get him the statue of Chintamani which was at the Kailash Mountain. Lord Shiva refused to give the statue to Tripurasur's messenger. The angry Tripurasur himself went to get the statue. A fierce battle started between him and Lord Shiva. He destroyed everything that belonged to the Lord Shiva who too retired to the Girikandar. Lord Shiva too realized that he was unable to destroy Tripurasur because he had not paid his respects to Lord Ganesh. He recited the Shadakshar Mantra to invoke Ganesh. On doing so from his mouth emerged Gajanan to grant Shiva a boon. Shiva continued his invocation of Ganesh who ultimately directed him on how Tripurasur could be killed. Lord Shiva was asked to recite the Sahastranam and then direct an arrow at the three pura's of Tripurasur. Ranjangaon, Shri Mahaganapati The village Ranjangaon is considered to be the place where Lord Shiva himself sought the blessings of Ganesh and ultimately destroyed Tripurasur. The temple of MahaGanapati is very close to the centre of the town Ranjangaon. The temple was erected during the rule of the Peshwas. The temple was built by Sardar Kine. Peshwa Madhavrao had constructed the Garbhagriha, the sanctum to house the swayambhoo statue. The place where Lord Shiva invoked Lord Ganesh he also created a temple for him. The temple faces east. It has an imposing main gate which is guarded by two statues of Jay and Vijay. The temple is designed in such away that during Dakshinayan the apparent movement of the sun to the south the rays of the sun fall directly on the deity. This statue has ten trunks and twenty arms on both sides of the idol are statues of Riddhi and Siddhi.

About the temple

Ranjangaon Shri Mahaganapati:

The village Ranjangaon is considered to be the place where Lord Shiva himself sought the blessings of Ganesh and ultimately destroyed Tripurasur. The temple of MahaGanapati is very close to the centre of the town Ranjangaon. The temple was erected during the rule of the Peshwas. The temple was built by Sardar Kine. Peshwa Madhavrao had constructed the Garbhagriha, the sanctum to house the swayambhoo statue. The place where Lord Shiva invoked Lord Ganesh he also created a temple for him. The temple faces east. It has an imposing main gate which is guarded by two statues of Jay and Vijay. The temple is designed in such away that during Dakshinayan the apparent movement of the sun to the south the rays of the sun fall directly on the deity. This statue has ten trunks and twenty arms on both sides of the idol are statues of Riddhi and Siddhi.

Ganapati idol

Idol facing east is in a crossed legged sitting position with broad forehead & the trunk turned towards the left. Riddhi & Siddhi are on the both the sides of Mahaganapati.

Meditating on that idol is called Mahaganapati Dhyan. That idol is not taken out usually. Due to fear of muslim invasion, in good old days that idol was hidden. That Ganesha is called Mahotkata. However, temple trustees has refused the existence of such an idol in the cellar.

The stone pillars of old temple will be seen in the compound which indicates that architecture of the original temple shows similarity to 9th or 10th century architecture.

Photos

Bhadrapad Ganesh utsav:







Gudi padwa:







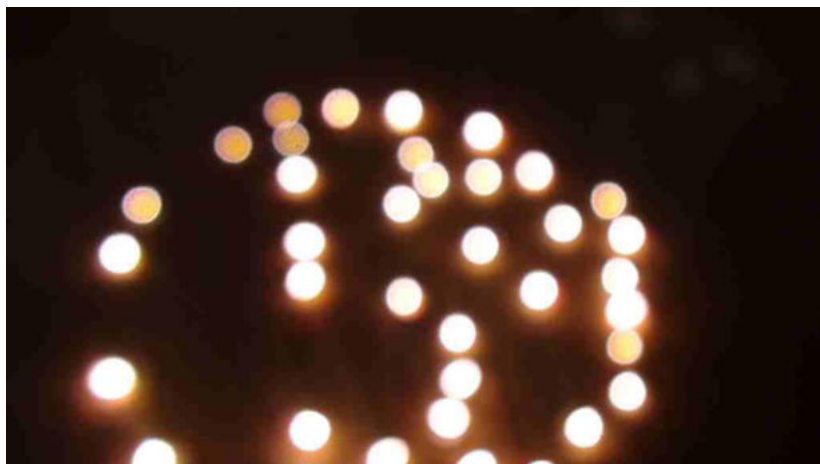


Makar sankranti:





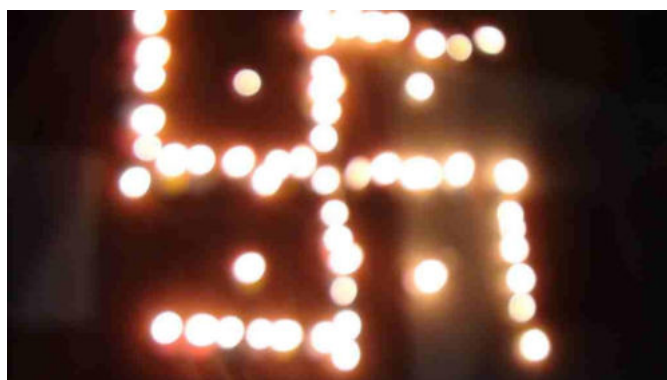
Tripur purnima:











Ref: tripadvisor.in : Photos





















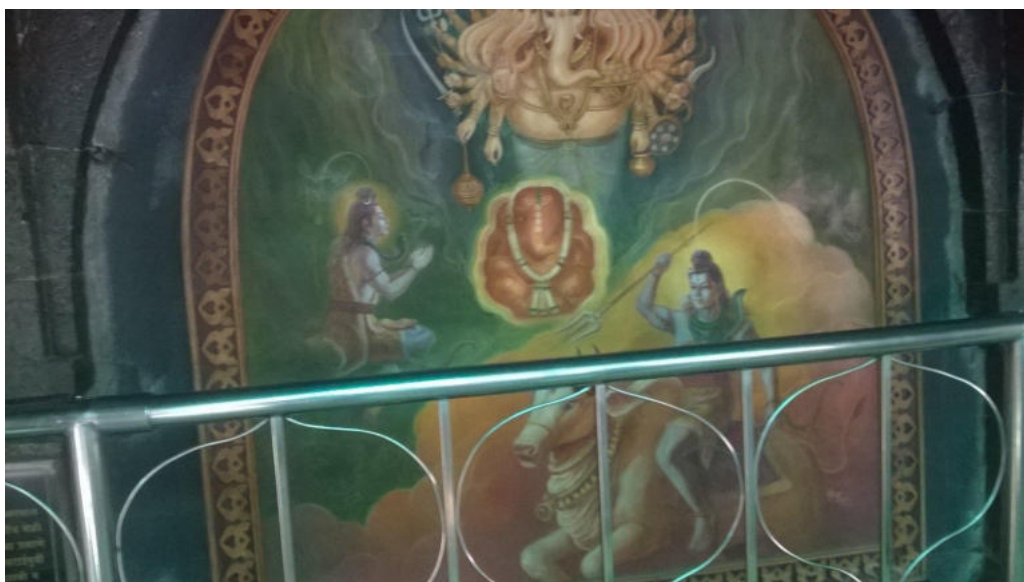














Ref: FaceBook page: Ashtavinayaka Mahaganapati Temple Ranjangaon: Photos







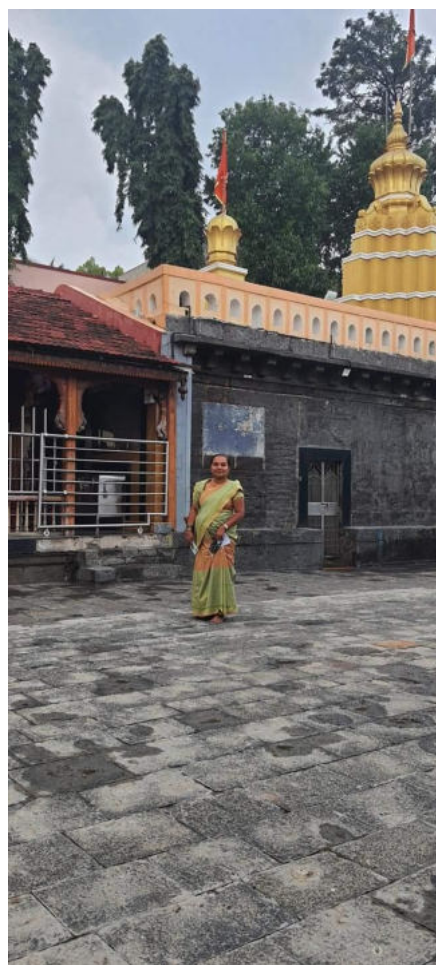
चंद्रोदय रात्री ९:०३ मि.

अंगारको संकष्टी चतुर्थी

निमित्त सर्व गणेशभक्तांना
मंगलमय शुभेच्छा..!

प्रदिप बवलें मा. नगरसेवक,
आळंदी नगरपरिषद













YouTube Videos:

Darshan of Mahaganapati, Ranjangaon: <https://youtu.be/yaTeTTr064M>

Mahaganapati Mandir, Ranjangaon: <https://youtu.be/1B1ITnhdtdk>

Mahaganapati Ranjangaon: True story: <https://youtu.be/1B1ITnhdtdk>

Ranjangaon Mahaganapati: <https://youtu.be/-qRdyY9Q09s>

Mahaganapati Ranjangaon: <https://youtu.be/cD2Utk006H8>

Mahaganapati Ranjangaon: https://youtu.be/ku_P6ABWq-0

Mahaganapati Ranjangaon: <https://youtu.be/dVaO8Xi9q9Y>

Ranjangaon Mahaganapati darshan: <https://youtu.be/-qRdyY9Q09s>

Ranjangaon Mahaganapati darshan: <https://youtu.be/UIDWj1XXeuE>

Darshan of Shri Mahaganapati of Ranjangaon: https://youtu.be/YjU_meVf5iA

Ashtavinayak Darshan: Ranjangaon Mahaganapati: <https://youtu.be/5v6aQgigYDs>

Ashtavinayak special: Ranjangaon Mahaganapati: https://youtu.be/rkilBV7_-FU

Mahaganapati Ranjangaon darshan: <https://youtu.be/KfEmkiJPVlk>

Mahaganapati Mandir true story: <https://youtu.be/ySfOmR0ncdE>

Ranjangaon Mahaganapati story: <https://youtu.be/y4Jkl3BYtV0>

Mahaganapati Ranjangaon: https://youtu.be/ilwSdxw4_1Q

Shri Ganesh sahasranamam: <https://youtu.be/ZiKSg7hpEMU>

Ganapati Aksharamala stotra (Kannada) for children: <https://youtu.be/sftMgfNmFml>

Mahaganapati stotram: <https://youtu.be/DUDvb589E84>

Mahaganapati Atharvashirsha: <https://youtu.be/4q-53LhrE74>

Ranjangaon Mahaganapati song: Usha Mangeshkar: <https://youtu.be/zdHkgKDmJOE>

Ganapati stotras: <https://youtu.be/U5JYPOTSiL0>

Ganapati stotram: <https://youtu.be/d-D8iV5LvBI>

Ganapati stotram: <https://youtu.be/witRW0Bh6e4>

Runaharan Ganapati stotram: <https://youtu.be/VLFe68n0Uxo>

Ganapati Atharvashirsha: <https://youtu.be/6rdILZ5-CT4>

Sankatnashan Ganesha stotram: <https://youtu.be/N6scSqLkTE8>

Ganesha Hridaya: <https://youtu.be/HGd3sRZyiuU>

Ashtavinayak Aarti: <https://youtu.be/OFX5695JBIU>

Morning Aarti: <https://youtu.be/-k16cdT5ZWws>

Ganesha devotional: <https://youtu.be/yXvYliki4Lg>

Ganapati Devotional songs: https://youtu.be/cFMaKG_Cfns

Ganapati Devotional Songs: <https://youtu.be/7kCyyQGvJD4>



ॐ स॒ह ना॑ ववतु । स॒ह नो॑ भुनक्तु । स॒ह वी॒र्यं॑ करवावहै । ते॒ज॒स्विना॒वधी॑तमस्तु मा वि॒द्विषा॑वहै ॥ (3)

ॐ शान्तिः॒ शान्तिः॒ शान्तिः॑ ॥ (3)

Appendix

Ganesh stotras etc:

Ref: vignanam.org

Videos:

Ganesh atharvasheersham by Challikere brothers: <https://youtu.be/m2dPpGzywnQ>

Ganesh atharvasheersham by Shankar Mahadevan: <https://youtu.be/DAXzF3O2h5Y>

Video: Ganesha Pancharatnam by M S Subbulakshmi: <https://youtu.be/KbXZUWW6pzA>

Ganesha Pancharatnam by Bombay sisters: <https://youtu.be/yUDMITmv6lc>

Video: Vatapi Ganesham bhajeham: M S Subbulakshmi: <https://youtu.be/pMFHfvLiBSc>

K J Yesudas: <https://youtu.be/BSq0islk3XY>

Ghantasala: <https://youtu.be/KVhS4hRncxw>

Ganesh Bhujangam: Video chanting of the Ganesha bhujangam:
Uma Mohan: <https://youtu.be/5YaGMu0DcgE>

Spiritual mantra: <https://youtu.be/odxQJWtcsBc>

Various artists: <https://youtu.be/oS8rqA3tRvg>

Raghav Reddy videos: <https://youtu.be/yYRs8KfHDdA>

Prahlad Dixit: <https://youtu.be/QP-WhpJ4s9o>

Link to download Vatapi Ganapathim bhaje –audio---by Ghantasala:
<https://app.box.com/s/99q13ytmqf72u1pj0wxt2xk137slm2ox>

Ganesha Mangalashtakam: Bangalore sisters: <https://youtu.be/sHcfUxADr6k>

Kamala Ramani: https://youtu.be/3ZYWpsz_tVQ

S P Balasubramanyam et al: <https://youtu.be/FNrWeNF5bW4>

Ganesha mahimna stotram: Devotional series: <https://youtu.be/Ay5cOT0gqU>

Dr. Kuldeep Kumar Shukla: <https://youtu.be/BAMAswu2PBs>

Spiritual mantra: <https://youtu.be/TE28SwjWmSI>

Ganesha Ashtottara shata namavali:

Video chanting of this namavali: Geethanjali music: <https://youtu.be/sz28C8ogvvk>

Ganesha sahasranamavali: <https://youtu.be/pcHYEeUtlGo>

Ganesha sahasranama stotram: <https://youtu.be/tZCkf8WHwNg>

Ganapati stotras: <https://youtu.be/U5JYPOTSiL0>

Ganapati stotram: <https://youtu.be/d-D8iV5LvBI>

Ganapati stotram: <https://youtu.be/witRW0Bh6e4>

Runaharan Ganapati stotram: <https://youtu.be/VLFe68n0Uxo>

Ganapati Atharvashirsha: <https://youtu.be/6rdILZ5-CT4>

Sankatnashan Ganesha stotram: <https://youtu.be/N6scSqLkTE8>

Ganesha Hridaya: <https://youtu.be/HGd3sRZyiuU>

Ashtavinayak Aarti: <https://youtu.be/OFX5695JBIU>

Morning Aarti: <https://youtu.be/-k16cdT5ZWs>

Ganesha devotional: <https://youtu.be/yXvYliki4Lg>

Ganapati Devotional songs: https://youtu.be/cFMaKG_Cfns

Ganapati Devotional Songs: <https://youtu.be/7kCyvQGvJD4>

Ganesh Chaturthi special bhajans in Prasanthinilayam: https://youtu.be/_wG8krt6ZUc

Ganesh special devotional songs---Puttaparthi: <https://youtu.be/0ukl-D4IG6U>

Ganesh Ashtakam by Sai students: <https://youtu.be/f8D8-VSHV4o>

Significance of Ganapati---discourse by Sri Sathya Sai Baba:
<https://youtu.be/bCa1YEA47L8>

Good sites:

A very good site for stotras, ashtottara etc on various Gods (you can choose the language too): <https://vignanam.org>

To bring together and disseminate the Vedic and ethnic features allied with Kerala: <http://vaikhari.org/>

Another very good site one can refer for Vedas, samhitas, aranyakas, upanishds etc etc: www.vedicheritage.gov.in

Vedic Mantra collection .. Mantra sangrah:

<https://www.drikpanchang.com/vedic-mantra/mantra-collection.html>

Link to Sanskrit mantras, prayers etc: <https://www.hinduwebsite.com/mantraslinks.asp>

Mantras, shlokas, stotras for Hindu Gods, Goddesses:

<https://www.templepurohit.com/mantras-slokas-stotras/>

For Stotras:

<https://stotranidhi.com>

Box link to download ebook..Daily prayers.pdf (in Sanskrit+English):

<https://app.box.com/s/0gz5k856mzne79jc255ycngig9ye7ttb>

Box link to download ebook..Devata stotras.pdf (in Kannada):

<https://app.box.com/s/7rh6het5atjnd18bg33cjs1vbjwdh6y4>

Link to download Lalitha Sahasranamam:

<https://vignanam.org/samskritam/sree-lalita-sahasra-nama-stotram.html>

Link to download Durga saptashati:

<https://vignanam.org/samskritam.htm#&panel1-1>

Box link to download ebook..Devata stotras.pdf (in Kannada):

<https://app.box.com/s/7rh6het5atjnd18bg33cjs1vbjwdh6y4>

Box link to download ebook..Rama katha rasavahini –part-1 by Sri Sathya Sai Baba:

<https://app.box.com/s/789eqte8p9o0c1zm50mdxcn44i1q7cb2>

Box link to download ebook..Rama katha rasavahini –part-2 by Sri Sathya Sai

Baba: <https://app.box.com/s/yvuv38j9pcbvzzc23zpy9xht49bdjxzv>

Box Link to download ebook ShreeRam.pdf ...Ramayana in pictures

<https://app.box.com/s/o7kgml3ig6ko5wea5h245qawion0j9y7>

Box Link to download ebook RamNavami messages (Kannada).pptx

<https://app.box.com/s/3d7can9x1jfrch7cdforha6qfqliqy5g>

Download Ramcharita manas (Tulasidas) by Gita Press:

<https://archive.org/details/GitaPress790>

Download Valmiki Ramayanam (English) from TTD, Thirupathy:

<https://ebooks.tirumala.org/read?id=20&title=Valmiki%20Ramayanam>

When Lord Ram and Hanuman gave darshan to Tulasidas: Talk by Sri Sathya Sai Baba:

<https://www.facebook.com/SathyaSaiWithStudents/videos/812029159749759/?app=fbl>

Aarti: Sukha karta, Dukh harta:

<https://youtu.be/dl-9SxjyUf0>

<https://youtu.be/x3eVLuHDdfM>

